



THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

Three Cups of Tea Inspires Local Fund Drive

Vicksburg Resident Raising Money for Schools in Pakistan, Afghanistan

By Lorraine Sanders

Earlier this fall, when Vicksburg Street resident Bill McBride reached for the next book on the top of the stack by his bed, he thought he was just opening the latest “must-read” recommended by his fellow teachers and literature-savvy friends. Little did he know the page-turner would send him on a mission to raise money to build a school halfway round the world in the remote, mountainous regions of Afghanistan and Pakistan. “You cannot put it down. It’s so inspiring and exciting,” says McBride of *Three Cups of Tea: One Man’s Mission to Promote Peace, One School at a Time*, the *New York Times* bestseller by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin.

The true, first-person account chroni-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

Circle Bank Squares Up Plans to Open on 24th Street

By Tim Innes

Imagine a bank with a play area for kids, parking for strollers, a corner for dogs to curl up in, and doors that stay open seven days a week. A bank like that could materialize in “downtown” Noe Valley this spring if Circle Bank wins final city approval to convert two empty storefronts just east of Whole Foods into a branch office. The bank branch, Circle’s fifth, would also be the neighborhood’s fifth, joining

CONTINUED ON PAGE 21



Noe Valley writer and educator Bill McBride is spearheading a campaign to raise \$34,000 to build a San Francisco-sponsored school in Pakistan or Afghanistan. Photo by Pamela Gerard

Vampire Finds Romance in Novelist’s Debut

By Olivia Boler

Pop culture neophytes, take note: vampires, those icy-cold bloodsuckers, are red-hot these days—hot in movies, hot in literature, and hot in the blogosphere. From the *Twilight* books and movies to the *True Blood* series on HBO, you’d have to live in a bat cave not to know that the general public digs the undead. Here in Noe Valley, Sanchez Street resident Clare Willis is making her own mark on the vampire scene—with the Dec. 1 release of her first novel, *Once Bitten*, a “paranormal romance” (Zebra Books). “Actually, it’s really a paranormal mur-



der-mystery romance,” says Willis, 44. “But the publisher gave it the paranormal romance label. At the heart of it is a straight-up murder mystery, and the heroine is solving it while trying to figure out if the guy she loves is a vampire. I like to say that it’s *Melrose Place* meets *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*—two popular TV shows, one a frothy soap opera, the other a witty teen adventure series. In *Once Bitten*, the 28-year-old heroine Angie McCaffrey, a San Francisco advertising executive, has a new client—a cosmetics line for wannabe vampires. One of these wannabes is Eric Taylor, a sexy young gent. Angie and Eric feel sparks, but soon Angie’s boss Lucy is found dead—and drained of blood—and Eric is the main suspect. Is Eric the murderer, and if so, is he a real vampire? Angie sets out to find the truth. A few years ago, Willis was in the middle of writing her novel as a plain-old murder mystery when she came across an article about San Francisco “blood fetishists,” people who put on performances at

CONTINUED ON PAGE 19

Residents Call Out T-Mobile for Surprise Antennas

Where Was the Tweet?

By Corrie M. Anders

Without any notice to residents, a national cell phone company has begun installing a web of wireless antennas on public utility poles in Noe Valley. The work began in November as part of T-Mobile’s plan to increase cell phone coverage in San Francisco. The effort will continue until the end of the year at four locations in Noe Valley and 34 other sites in the city. The work has vexed a number of local residents, who complain that the antennas and their unsightly equipment boxes came out of the blue. Vicki Rosen says she chanced upon the work in progress at Valley and Church streets during a morning walk near her home. “They’re just hideous,” said Rosen, president of Upper Noe Neighbors, a civic watchdog organization. “They are

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15

Should the Parking Meters Run Day And Night?

Transit Agency Says Yes, and Sundays Too

By Corrie M. Anders

A San Francisco city agency has proposed to eliminate something Noe Valleyans have long taken for granted: free parking on 24th Street, at night and on Sundays. Naturally, there are a lot of people unhappy about the idea. They are afraid full-time parking fees will discourage trips to “Downtown” Noe Valley. But planners argue the change will have a positive effect, while raising cash for a financially strapped city. Currently, the parking meters along the 24th Street commercial corridor operate Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 17



Principal Deborah Molof and students (left to right) Aaron Rosas, Kimberlin Soriano, Ruth Quiñonez, and Matthew Aguilar enjoy the close family feeling at Mission Education Center, a school located within the Kate Kennedy building on Noe Street. Photo by Pamela Gerard

Noe Street School a Stepping Stone for Latino Immigrant Children

By Heather World

Women’s rights crusader Kate Kennedy immigrated to the United States from Ireland in 1849, so it is fitting that the school named in her honor at 30th and Noe streets is now a transitional school for recent Latino immigrants. Mission Education Center—one of five transitional schools in the San Francisco Unified School District—provides a yearlong introduction to English and American life. Depending on the numbers of new arrivals, the student body ranges from 100 to 250 children, in kindergarten through fifth grade. Stu-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 41

Contents

Books to Read	45
Calendar	28-29
Class Ads	48-49
Cost of Living in Noe	23
Crossword	9
Groups	39
Letters	8
Neighborhood Services	46-47
Police Beat	25
Rumors Behind the News	51-52
Short Takes	31
Store Trek	33

THE NOE VALLEY VOICE
www.noevalleyvoice.com
editor@naevalleyvoice.com

BI·RITE

★ CREATING COMMUNITY THROUGH FOOD ★



**YOUR FAMILY-OWNED SOURCE FOR A
SUSTAINABLE HOLIDAY DINNER**



HOLIDAY SPECIAL

Niman Ranch Prime Rib 9.99/lb
(while supplies last)

PLUS a full selection of holiday sides,
desserts, and more...all from our in-house kitchen!
Check our website for menu and details.

AND FOR A SPECIAL NEW YEAR'S EVE,
we have sparkling wine, sustainable caviar,
artisan cheeses and more



We feature whole animal butchery, in house every day. We sell true
pastured beef, pork, lamb and chicken from local ranches, including:

Gleason Ranch	Marin Sun Farms	BN Ranch	Soul Food Farms	Watson Lamb	Devil's Gulch Ranch	5 Dot Ranch
------------------	-----------------------	-------------	-----------------------	----------------	---------------------------	----------------

Annual Holiday Wine Blitz
20% OFF FULL CASES OF WINE

• **DECEMBER 10-13** •

12 BOTTLES OR MORE . CAN MIX AND MATCH BOTTLES.
FREE DELIVERY IN SAN FRANCISCO

3639 - 18TH STREET, SF (BETWEEN GUERRERO & DOLORES) • (415) 241-9760

WWW.BIRITEMARKET.COM



Good to the last lick!

3692 - 18TH STREET, SF
(AT DOLORES) • (415) 626-5600

WWW.BIRITECREAMERY.COM



WE CATER, TOO!

There's no need to stress over the
holidays. Our catering department
will make your holiday entertaining
a breeze, whether you need a
couple of platters or a fully staffed,
all-out extravaganza.

Check out our website for more
information and sample menus.

WWW.BIRITEMARKET.COM



**ENGAGING OUR COMMUNITY
WITH THE PEOPLE WHO FEED US**

Check our
online calendar for
upcoming events!

593 GUERRERO STREET, SF
(AT 18TH STREET)

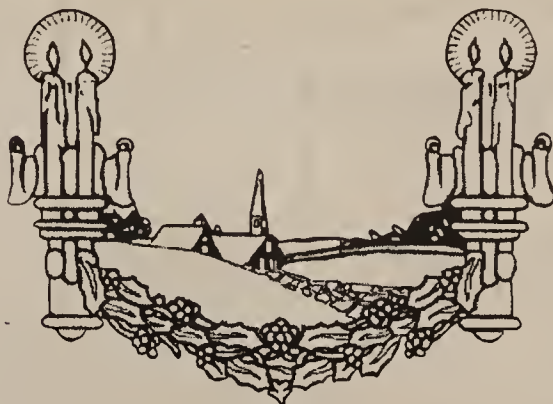
WWW.18REASONS.ORG



NOE VALLEY LAW OFFICES

Living Trusts

Wills • Estate Planning • Probate



SEASON'S GREETINGS TO ALL!

ROBERT T. RODDICK

ATTORNEY-AT-LAW

1330 Castro Street (415) 641-8687



415.550.1993
www.wallaceremodeling.com

Our skilled team of remodelers offers both design/build projects using our licensed, in-house architect and general contractor services in collaboration with your designer:

- Whole House Renovations
- Master Suite & Garage Additions
- New, Updated Kitchens
- Historic Restorations

Kevin Wallace offers on-site consultations for prospective properties, providing an expert assessment and in-depth, local knowledge.

- **for Homebuyers:** Details and perspective that will help you make informed decisions and guide you toward opportunities to enhance a property and its future value for you as the new owner.
- **for Real Estate Brokers:** Concise, invaluable information about properties that will help you build targeted sales and marketing strategies and add tremendous value to your clients' listings.
- **for Small Businesses:** Answers that help envision the possibilities of a commercial space and how it will serve your needs, from build-out options to permit process and timeline.



Since 1973. A local Noe Valley business since 1982.

Contractors Lic. #601656

TUGGEY'S

HARDWARE FOR THE HANDYMAN
PERSON
Denny Giovannoli

*Merry Christmas,
Happy Holidays and
GOOD HEALTH IN THE NEW YEAR
to all our Noe Valley
friends and customers!*

Open Mon.-Fri. 9:00 - 5:30
Sat. 9:00 - 5:00
Sun. 11:00 - 3:00



3885 24th Street
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94114
415.282.5081

HARDWOOD FLOORS



30 Years Experience
In San Francisco

**REFINISHED
REPAIRED
INSTALLED**

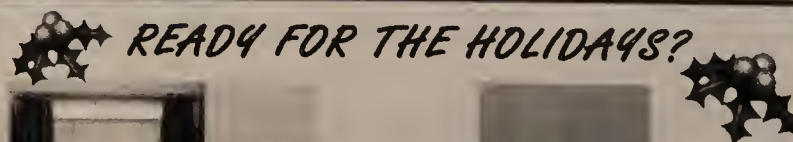
3 Coat Finishes

References Available

License # 594759
Insured, PL & PD

Visalli & Son

Free Estimates • 415-586-0307



shade
window coverings

custom draperies and shades
custom shutters
motorization
solar screen shades
drapery hardware
complete interior design

◇ design ◇ sales/service ◇ installation



415.839.8686

CL# 928830

HunterDouglas
window fashions

Happy Holidays!



We love being a part of this neighborhood. Come by and say hello anytime.

815 Alvarado Street



Spectacular Light Filled Home. This 4BD/3.5BA Arts & Crafts style 3 story home with 360 degree views was re-built by designer, Joseph Pugliese, owner of Design Solutions. Includes built-in intercom, lighting & music systems, & many green elements.

Offered at \$2,965,000
Michelle Long (415) 321-4227

350 Valley Street



State-of-the-art Noe Valley Home. Ideally located between vibrant 24th and Church streets, this 3BD/ 2.5BA+2 car garage home boasts the open floor plan everyone wants, chef's kitchen (Sub-Zero, Miele, Viking) with French doors open to wood deck, spa & lush private garden.

Offered at \$1,499,000
Ron Sebahar (415) 321-4295

178 27th Street



Noe Valley Jewel. 3BD/2BA home. Contemporary architecture with classic traditional floor plan. The main floor has a real cook's bistro kitchen that opens to an enchanting garden. The modern second floor addition with an open staircase has fabulous space. 1 car garage.

Offered at \$1,472,000
Jamie Howell (415) 321-4399
Caroline Kahn Werboff (415) 321-4260

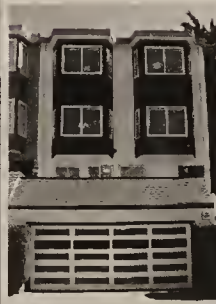
4463-67 24th Street



Noe Valley Duplex - Stunning Views! Sweeping panoramic sights of The City and Bay, yet minutes from vibrant neighborhood centers. Two 3BD/2BA bright & spacious units with fireplaces & decks. The options are open - imagine the possibilities! To learn more visit viewduplexon24th.com

Offered at \$1,249,000
Jamie Howell (415) 321-4399
Debra Lee (415) 321-3104

469-471 Diamond Street



Fantastic Two Unit Building With Multi Level Owner Unit. Owner unit includes large living/dining room combo with hardwood floors, fireplace and half bath. 2nd level features 3 large view bedrooms, 2 full baths and laundry closet. 2nd unit: ground floor studio.

Offered at \$1,165,000
Eddie O'Sullivan (415) 321-4363
James White (415) 321-4383

822 Alvarado Street



Classic 1890's Victorian Jewel. Located on desirable tree-lined street, this 3BD/1BA home has a newly painted, elegant facade, iron & brass gates and sunny porch. Spacious living room with custom shelving/lighting, marble fireplace, high ceilings, & gorgeous inlaid hardwood floors.

Offered at \$1,075,000
Ron Wong (415) 321-4368
Mike Tekulsky (415) 321-4369

1011 23rd Street, #14



Dramatic Tri-level Dogpatch Loft With Views. 2BD/2.5BA loft with soaring floor to ceiling windows, great light and downtown views. Great floor plan. Maple hardwood floors. 2-gas fireplaces. Large, skylight kitchen. Huge master suite with fireplace on the lower level. 1-car pkg.

Offered at \$748,000
Tal Klein (415) 321-4289

2889 Cesar Chavez Street



Wonderful 2 Story Edwardian Home Near Precita Park. Great price for this 2 story 3BD/2BA Edwardian home. Spacious & inviting rooms, good light, private yard, 2+ car garage. Large, eat-in, family style kitchen, huge living room spanning the width of the house.

Offered at \$679,000
Beth Kershaw (415) 260-2321
Don Gable (415) 350-3854

1815 Felton Street



Picture Perfect Home. This absolutely charming 2BD/1 BA home has enough curb appeal for a magazine cover. Beautiful details such as a window seat & fireplace in the living room, a built-in buffet in the formal dining room, an entry way sun-porch and softwood floors. Garden + 1-car garage.

Offered at \$449,000
Beth Kershaw (415) 260-2321
Don Gable (415) 350-3854

Noe Valley Office Agents: We'd be delighted to talk to you about properties in this neighborhood!



William Coleman



Don Gable



Erkan Gozum



Jamie Howell



Jane Ivory



Ginger Karels



Tasneem Karimbhai



Beth Kershaw



Tal Klein



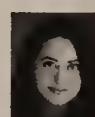
Debra Lee



Michelle Long



Robert Mayer



Betty Michael



Eddie O'Sullivan



Jeny Smith



Michael Tekulsky



James White



Tim Woloshyn



Ron Wong

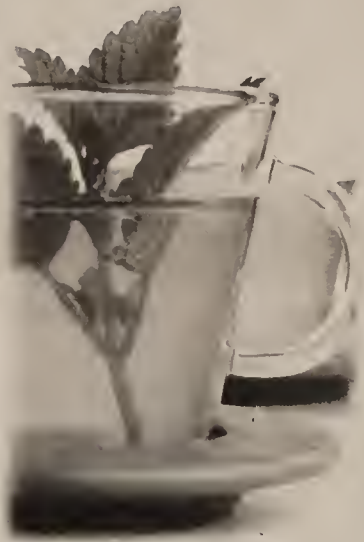


WHO'S WHO IN
LUXURY REAL ESTATE™



HILL & CO.
REAL ESTATE

(415) 824-1100 • www.hill-co.com
Noe Valley Office: 3899 24th Street



The Noe Valley Clinic

Integrative family medicine

Traditional medical care and integrative health services ... in your neighborhood.

Acupuncture and traditional Chinese medicine are based on the premise that there are pathways of energy flowing through the body which are essential for good health. Herbal medicine is the historical oncestor to prescription drugs, providing immune system enhancement and promoting overall good health. These treatments can be helpful in treating a variety of conditions including pain, GI imbalances, mental health, fatigue, stress, insomnia, and infertility.

At The Noe Valley Clinic, Michelle Kurada, LAc and Jeannie Bianchi, LAc use a combination of acupuncture and Chinese herbs to get outstanding results for patients with chronic health conditions. They work with a team of primary care physicians and naturopathic doctors to provide holistic care.

For members of The Noe Valley Clinic, we offer: same-day appointments, longer more personalized office visits that start on time, and email access to your clinician. We accept most major forms of PPO and HMO insurance to cover appointments and applicable services.

To learn more about our integrative providers and our other doctors and services, visit us in person or at www.noeclinic.com

The Noe Valley Clinic
3901 23rd Street @ Sanchez
415.830.4742



Happy Holidays
from all of us
Just For Fun
& Scribbledoodles

3982 24th Street, Noe Valley

Artsake
3961 24th Street, Noe Valley

Pre-order your Christmas arrangement early. **We Deliver!**

A basketful of Christmas cheer!

Send a
Christmas Festival Bouquet
for Christmas,
Friday, December 25.

For the ultimate
in Christmas cheer,
this bouquet has it all —
festive firs,
holiday greens and reds,
plus two hanging
Christmas tree
decorations.
Friends and family
are sure to love it!

Gourmet gift baskets, too.



Accent on
FLOWERS

415-824-3233 • 4080 24th STREET (NOE)



**Help make holidays
brighter for San Francisco
kids and families.**

Please join our annual food and toy drive
by bringing unwrapped, new toys and
non-perishable foods to any of our offices
throughout the City, now through December.
Serving our community is a wonderful gift.

**Santa and Rudolph the Reindeer will
be stopping by our Noe Valley Office on
24th Street with candy canes for kids,
Saturday, December 5th, 11am - 2pm**



Noe Valley • 415.695.7707
Pacific Heights • 415.674.6500
Potrero Hill • 415.315.0105
South Beach/SOMA • 415.905.0250
Upper Market • 415.552.9500
Castro • 415.552.9500
West Portal • 415.731.5000

www.zephyrsf.com

Zephyr Real Estate. We're all about San Francisco.

THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

1021 Sanchez Street
San Francisco, CA 94114
www.noevalleyvoice.com

The Noe Valley Voice is an independent newspaper published monthly except in January and August. It is distributed free in Noe Valley and vicinity, on or before the first Friday of the month. Subscriptions are available at \$30 per year (\$25 for seniors) by writing to the above address.

The Voice welcomes your letters, photos, and stories, particularly on topics relating to Noe Valley. All items should include your name, address, and phone number, and may be edited for brevity or clarity. (Unsigned letters will not be considered for publication.) Unsolicited contributions will be returned only if accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

The Noe Valley Voice is a member of the San Francisco Neighborhood Newspaper Association.

Email: editor@noevalleyvoice.com

Editorial Office: 415-821-3324

Website: www.noevalleyvoice.com

Distribution: Call Misha, 415-752-1726

Display Advertising: Call Steve, 415-239-1114

Class Ads: See Page 48-49

Display Advertising Deadline for the February Issue: Jan. 20, 2009

Editorial/Class Ad Deadline: Jan. 15, 2009

CO-PUBLISHERS/EDITORS

Sally Smith, Jack Tipple

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS AND EDITORS

Olivia Boler, Last Page Editor

Corrie M. Anders, Associate Editor

Heidi Anderson, Associate Editor

Karol Barske, Helen Colgan, Chrissy Elgersma, Jan Goben, Liz Highleyman, John Hohulin, Laura McHale Holland, Florence Holub, Tim Innes, Jeff Kaliss, Doug Konecky, Pat Rose, Roger Rubin, Shayna Rubin, Lorraine Sanders, Karen Topakian, Kate Volkman, Heather World, Alaish Wren

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

Pamela Gerard, Photo Editor

Beverly Tharp, Senior Photographer

Jan Brittonson, Najib Joe Hakim, Leo Holub,

Ken Newman, Paula Whitehead

ILLUSTRATION

Karol Barske

PRODUCTION

Jon Elkin, Sally Smith, Jack Tipple

DISTRIBUTION

Misha Yagudin, Jack Tipple

WEB DESIGN

Jon Elkin, Elliot Poger

ADVERTISING SALES

Steve Steinberg, Advertising Manager

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

Contents © 2009 The Noe Valley Voice

LETTERS

Drivers, Take Your Turn

Editor:

Drivers in Noe Valley seem to be "doubling up" more often these days, while going through stop signs. One can be at a four-way stop sign (say I am going north) when a car goes through like they should (from the east, we'll say), and when the next car is supposed to drive through, the car behind the first car zooms across the intersection. Someone is going to get hit, and maybe it has happened already. I've seen all types of people doing this—even "moms." It's bad enough that we see a lot of drivers in our neighborhood on cell phones. But this is just as dangerous.

Jeri Raimondi

CORRECTIONS

The Voice made errors in the November 2009 issue, for which we apologize. First, our story on the District 8 race for supervisor ("They're Off and Running—Four Strong Candidates in the Race to Fill Dufty's Shoes") listed the wrong set of endorsements for candidate Laura Spanjian. The names we should have listed were Assemblywoman Fiona Ma, Sheriff Mike Hennessey, and former supervisors Roberta Achtenberg and Leslie Katz. The Alice B. Toklas LGBT Democratic Club, the Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club, and the Irish American Democratic Club had not yet made endorsements. We also wrote that Supervisor Bevan Dufty had endorsed two candidates in the race. Dufty also had not made any formal endorsements.

In another area of the paper, a formatting mistake caused a couple of items to be dropped from the Calendar.

We corrected both the supervisor story and the Calendar before they reached our website, www.noevalleyvoice.com.

Doggie Don'ts at Noe Courts

Editor:

Can I suggest a visit to Noe Courts park at Douglass and 24th streets, and an article about what you see, smell, and step in when you get there!

I was born in the city, but have since moved to San Bruno. However, I am always in Noe Valley because both of my sons and my grandson and granddaughter live within one block of the park. My wife grew up on 24th Street. We are part of the extended family caring for her ailing grandmother, who still lives on 24th Street, so we are in the neighborhood three to five times per week.

What we've seen is that 95 to 100 percent of the dog owners who visit the park are breaking the leash ordinance on a daily basis. When I complained to the owners after a large dog growled at me, I was confronted with laughter, then arguments.

I was once a dog owner, and am all for having a place for off-leash activity. But Noe Courts is a mixed-use playground, frequented by families; thus, keeping dogs on leash is required.

The issue could be resolved by having certain hours for off-leash recreation at Noe Courts. Also, people could go to Upper Douglass Park, an off-leash park only four blocks away.

No one should be self-righteous and think they are always right, but I do feel that my grandson should be able to visit a local playground and feel safe from aggressive dogs!

Ray Barrett

Memories of Tamale Grotto

Editor:

Great story about Bob Johnson ["Bob Johnson—The Tamale in Our Midst," November 2006 Voice]. What a guy! I loved the enchiladas, beans, and tamales at the Tamale Grotto, his store on Vicente Street. The food was always wrapped in newspaper, and it smelled so good I could hardly wait to get it home.

Virginia Kelly

Looking for the Voice

Editor:

Today, I tried for the second time to actually find the Noe Valley Voice office in person. I had a Class Ad in the last issue which did pretty good for me, and I wanted to run it again. The deadline was the 15th, which was a Sunday, and the

soonest the mail was going to get there was Monday the 16th. Not wanting to take any chances, I rode my bike up from the coffee-scented, hipster-infested Mission to the rarefied, baby-powder-scented air of Noe Valley, determined to keep it local, not involve any federal bureaucracies, and drop my classified ad directly in the NVV's mailbox (and save 44 cents, too). I thought maybe I had missed something last time, some small sign stapled to a tree trunk outside of 1021 Sanchez! Apparently, there is no NVV mailbox and no sign that the NVV exists at all. At 1021 Sanchez Street, I saw a church-like building, signs for a so-called Noe Valley Ministry, and for many other organizations, but no sign of the Noe Valley Voice.

Not wanting to miss the deadline for classifieds, I dropped my envelope in the mail slot at 1021 Sanchez Street and hoped for the best. If you get it, it's the one titled "Handyman Extraordinaire!" Thanks.

Michael McQuate

Editor's Note: Yes, Michael, we got it. But we feel rotten about causing you so much pain. Truth is we rent a small office in the back of the Noe Valley Ministry Presbyterian Church at 1021 Sanchez Street, but we have no outside entrance. Therefore, Class Ad depositors on foot have two choices. They can drop the ad in the mail slot in the wall to the left of the church's front door (like you did), or walk in the church and ferret us out. There is a sign and a "bucket" on our office door, which is in the southeast corner of the first floor of the building. Before you get there, though, you'll pass the Noe Valley Ministry office, just beyond the building's vestibule. Marshal Cousins, the Ministry's building manager, is often manning the desk. He sorts and distributes the mail for the church, and for the building's many other users. We're sure he will accept your envelope and get it to the right place.

LETTERS to the EDITOR

THE VOICE welcomes your letters to the editor. Write the Noe Valley Voice, 1021 Sanchez Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. Or email editor@noevalleyvoice.com.

Please include your name, address, and phone number. (Anonymous letters will not be considered for publication.) Be aware that letters may be edited for brevity or clarity. We look forward to hearing from you.

Now Open In Noe Valley

PIXIE HALL STUDIOS

Art For Everyone

New Sessions Beginning Soon

Wide Variety of Classes

Great For Kids of All Ages

Adult Classes & Workshops

Beautiful New Bright Studio

Studio Space Available For Parties/Events/Workshops

Space Is Limited...Register Today

Current Class Schedule & Registration Available Online

649 Diamond Street
San Francisco, CA 94114

415-400-4846
www.pixiehallstudios.com

Voice Vacates, Heads for Holiday Hills

Dear readers and those being read to: The Noe Valley Voice is now on vacation. While "Ah, Sweet Mystery of Life" and other holiday songs are stuck in our heads, it's a good time to say "thank you" for your support and encouragement in 2009. It's tough out there and even tougher outside our fair valley. Kindness and patience are ever more valuable.

So here is the deal and deadlines: You will enjoy this current issue, and we'll be back in January to work on the February 2010 edition. All things editorial are due Jan. 15. That includes Class Ads (see pages 48 and 49). For display advertising, you must get in touch with Steve by Jan. 20. And please do. (His number is 239-1114.)

Pax et bonum!

—Jack Tipple and Sally Smith, Eds.

P.S. The pitiful angel in the above photo bears no resemblance to our favorite photo editor Pamela Gerard, nor is it meant to imply we're disappointed with our present.



Ravens Victorious

Alert readers of the *Noe Valley Voice* will recall our photo on page 37 of the November 2009 issue where four football players from Benedictine College lifted one Noe Valley native (Angie Nakahara) into prominence in our Readers section. We misspelled the name of the other Noe Valley native pictured, college senior Sean Calvello. So when this was kindly pointed out, we thought it only fitting to set the record straight with this follow-up.

Sean Calvello (far right) had six tackles including one solo in his team's 28 to 16 win on Senior Day over Graceland Nov. 14. He was joined by dad John and his uncle and aunt Casey and Angie Nakahara. Go Ravens!



Feeling stuck?

Talk to someone who can help.

Psychotherapy & Consultation
4155 24th St. San Francisco

Call 415-505-0179 for a free consultation.

Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist MFC #43762
www.TherapistSF.com



L. Flick Hatcher

Basma Totah (415) 990-1145 &

Sheila Minkin (415) 606-8290

have moved to

1360 Church St.

San Francisco, CA 94114

episode

Salon & Spa

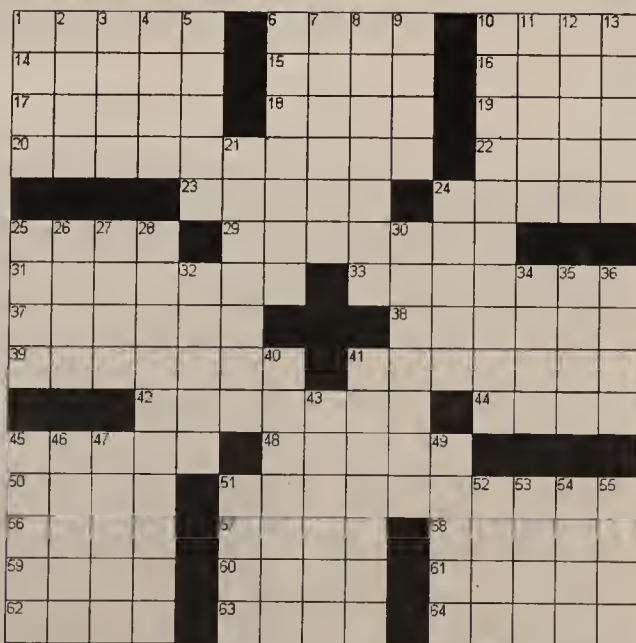
Please Join Us There!

CROSSWORD BY MICHAEL BLAKE

Bus Fare

ACROSS

1. Hindu prince
6. Flight staff
10. "M*A*S*H" co-star Jamie
14. Black, on a piano
15. Descartes or Magritte
16. Creme cookie
17. Finnish cellphone maker
18. Noe Valley's _____ Clevenger Junior Prep
19. Attacks, with "into"
20. Kiefer Sutherland TV series, spelled out
22. Actress Garr who, as a 13-year-old, danced for the SF Ballet
23. Shopping bags
24. Boxing's "Iron Mike"
25. Home row keys below QWERTY
29. Merit
31. Made some small changes to
33. Dwells
37. Catholic's prayer book
38. Act like a couch potato
39. Hit by Cupid's arrow
41. "Well, hello!"
42. Sentence parts
44. Gait between walk and canter
45. Aerosol
48. Shroud of _____
50. Consequently
51. Minimum age to be U.S. president
56. Centuries of centuries
57. Despise
58. Anchor Steam, to name one
59. Contribution to a pot
60. Unique case
61. Atmospheric layer with a hole in it



62. Decreasingly
63. Fed. food inspectors
64. In-group outcasts

DOWN

1. Musical presented by ACT in 2009
2. Take _____ (accept praise)
3. It has a punch line
4. Has _____ (is connected)
5. Market Street hotel with a revolving restaurant on top
6. Precision-made
7. Makes over, as a room
8. Final consumer
9. Become frayed
10. Number of contiguous United States
11. First sign of the zodiac
12. Copy, for short
13. Violin bow application
21. Alpine vocalist
24. Box with rabbit ears
25. Cash dispensers, for short
26. Enjoy the pool
27. He loved Lucy
28. \$55 cards that allow unlimited travel on the 3 Noe Valley buses in this puzzle
30. Go back over, as an assumption
32. Actress Bates
34. Mover and shaker
35. It replaced the lira
36. "Leave it in," to an editor
40. Famous name in hot dogs
41. SF City Attorney Dennis
43. Well _____: fitting
45. Bargain buy
46. Call
47. Litters' littlest
49. Hosiery material
51. Commandment starter
52. Fluster
53. Feldman role in "Young Frankenstein"
54. Peddle
55. "_____ Tu" (1974 hit song)

Solution on Page 45

NOTE: The Crossword, including all past puzzles, is now available at www.no valleyvoice.com.

DESIGN INTELLIGENCE

Thinking about renovating
but overwhelmed by all the choices?



2M architecture

www.2MArchitecture.com

501 Cortland Avenue, San Francisco CA 94110 415 826 5459

Get organized with our
SMART Design Study.

See website for details or
give us a call. We love to
talk about architecture!

Creating modern buildings today for a sustainable tomorrow.



THANK YOU!

Please patronize and support the many local merchants who have supported St. Paul's. Take a moment to look at the list below, and when you are in their stores or see individual donors, thank them for their generosity.

See you next year!

Our Generous 2009 Auction Donors

Maria Aberquille	Wences & Mary	Chilo Marengo	Scoma's
Accent on Flowers	Galeana	Juan Margarin	SFMOMA
Adventure Cat Sailing	Gallery of Jewels	Marks Homoele	Sea Bowl
Jill Alcantar	Tom Gilleran	Family	Serra Bowl
Jose & Lucu Alfaro	Glen Park Dental	Maria Elena Marquez	Wayne Schaffnit &
Alice's Restaurant	Go Kart Racers	Martha Bros Coffee	Paula Caretto
Alvarenga Family	Goat Hill Pizza	Alba Mejia y Familia	Mary Seffens
Linda Annuzzi	Golden Gate Glass	Cindy Mejia Family	Silverado Spa &
Apron Strings Cooking	& Mirror	Men of St. Paul	Resort
School	Ernestina Gonzalez	Mission Cliffs Indoor	Simply Uniform
Aquarium by the Bay	Orlando & Marta	Climbing	Six Flags Magic
Sofia Arellano	Gonzalez	Mitchell's Ice Cream	Mountain
Rodemiro Arguello	Great Haircuts	Bell Moen	Sloat Garden Center
Asian Art Museum	Kathy Grogan	Morena Montalvo	Small Frys
Eda Ballesteros	Hood & Strong	Leonardo Montenegro	Hilda Solis
Bay Area Discovery	Guittard Chocolate Co.	Montes Familis	Tony Spiteri/QSP
Museum	Nelly Gutierrez	Leticia Morales	Sports Basement
Beach Blanket	Hall Realty	Rosario & Guillermo	Ron Squires
Babylon	Hamano Sushi	Morales	Stanton Family
Benziger Winery	Hanson-Crawford	Moshin Winery	St. Francis Drake
Berkeley Repertory	Family Law Group	Kamala Mostert	Hotel
Theatre	Haystack Pizza	Miriam Munguia	St. Francis Winery
Carlos & Tere Berrios	Ted Heimer	Carlos Murillo	St. Paul's Athletic
David Bessette	John & Eloice Helms	Deacon Jim Myers	Board
Ken & Janet Bollier	Consuelo Hernandez	Navarettes Black Belt	St. Paul's High School
Shawn & Michele	Martin Hernandez	Academy	Alumnae
Bulen	Johana Herrera	Nelligan Family	St. Paul's Parent
Cache Creek Casino	Marilyn Highlander	Mary Nelson	Group
Café Bello	Pool	Nibbi Bros.	St. Paul's School of
Café XO	Hiller Aviation	Construction	Religion
Cal Performances	Museum	Noe Valley Bakery	Joan Strachan
Luisa Campo	Angel & Rosa Hinojosa	Noe Valley Cyclery	Maritza Soares
Evelyn Campos	Ernesto & Anita	Frank & Lois Noonan	Sugar Bowl Ski
Ida Carrillo	Hinojosa	Mary & Frank	Resort
Marta Carvajal	Eugenia Hinojosa	O'Rourke	Ann Sullivan
Amador & Alba	Hoogasian Flowers	Anne & Dave O'Shea	Mary Tan
Castillo	Ice Center at	Katy O'Shea	Gary & Lisa Taormina
Centered Body Pilates	San Mateo	Oakland Athletics	Terra Mia
Chenery Park	Imagery Winery	Francisco & Marta	Toast Eatery
Restaurant	Incanto Restaurant	Obregon	Sonia Tobias
Cheryl Burke Dance	Jacqueline's Hair	Barbara J Opperman	Ruth Tortorelli
Childrens Discovery	Place	Franklin T Opperman	Train Town
Museum SJ	Jose & Argentina	Pasta Pomodoro	Ana Trejo
Chocolate Covered	Jiminez	Patio Espanol	Angelica Ortiz Trejo
Catherine Chung	Joe's of Westlake	Irene Pena	Jose Trejo
Club Latino	Just Awesome	Norma Perez	Lillian Tude
Cole Hardware	Just for Fun	Linda Petrini	Twin Peaks Pizza
Common Scents	KQED Tours	Puerto Alegre	Marjorie Vaccarezza
Eva Corral & Family	Kaufer's Religious	Anna Marie Raffo	Joseph & Maria
Cover to Cover	Supplies	Ronald Raffo	Vaccaro
Joe & Anne Crawford	Justina Keirbesek	Ramires Silva Family	Valley of the Moon
Sr. Ann Cronin	Katherine Kennedy	Regent Thai	Winery
Esther Cuellar	Margaret Ketchem	Howard Reinstein	Lupita Vasquez
Jim & Jacqueline	Margaret Kotlanger	McGuire	Natividad Vasquez
Curran	La Ciccia Restaurant	Marisa Ricci	Lucy Vaquerano
Jack Curtin	La Petite Baleen Inc.	Mary Richardson	Elsa Vides
Dave & Busters	Lydia Laguagardia	Celia Robles	Juan and Haydee
De Young Museum	Lakeside Café	Mercedes Robles	Villatoro
Marie Doherty	Landmark Winery	Connie Rodriguez	Brian & Mary
Domaine Carneros	Bob & Patti Lazzaretto	Maria Inez Rodriguez	Wachowicz
Drewes Bros. Meats	Gladys Lazzarini	Elia Rojas	Walgreens
Sandy & Jim Driscoll	Cathy Lewis	Jaime & Olga Romero	Whitehall Winery
Duggan's Serra	Rosargentina Lezcano	Julio Rosario &	Whole Foods Market
Mortuary	Juan Lima	Lucrecia Montes	Whoop, Inc.
Driscoll's & Sullivan	Joan Lionberger	Round Table	Winchester Mystery
Dubliner Bar	Lisa Violette Designs	Pizza-Portola Dr	House
Duggan Welch	Littlest Angels	Rudnicki Family	Women of St. Paul
Family Funeral	Preschool	Richard & Stephanie	Yerba Buena Ice
Service	Esperanza Lopez	Rugg	Skating Center
Electronic Arts	Miriam Lopez	Joan Russo	Clifford & Lisa
Sean Elsbernd	Reina Lopez	SAFeway	Yetzler-Samuel
Dolores Ernsner	Lovejoy's Tea Room	Lou Sagale	Roberto Zaldana
Eye Q Optometry	Lucky Chances	Juan & Kira Salas	Obilio Zavala
Fr. Mario Farana	Elodia Lucumi	San Francisco 49ers	
Mickie Farrelly	Carmen Macias	San Francisco Giants	
Marilyn Ferrucci	Juan Magarin	San Francisco POA	
Fima Photography	Larry Magee	San Jose Sharks	
Firefly Restaurant	Vickie Majoric	Hockey Team	
Eredina Flores	Malibu Grand Prix	Juan & Carmen	
Juana Flores	Gerry & Nancy	Santisteban	
Eleanora Fonda	Mannion	Dina Santana	
Yolanda Fuentes	Michael Manteuffel	Rosa Scartin	
Helen Gage	DN	Annette Schubert	

St. Paul's Church

221 Valley Street • San Francisco, California 94131 • 415-648-7538

THE ONE STOP PARTY SHOP HOLIDAY SEASON



CHRISTMAS and New Year's Eve 2010



- Christmas Ornaments
- Christmas and Party Decorations
- Gift Wrapping
- Gift Certificates
- Party Supplies
- Balloon Bouquets for All Occasions

The perfect place for ALL your Christmas needs
and party decorations!

*Thanks to all our Noe Valley friends
and customers for making this our
best Halloween ever!*

1600 Church Street at 28th

415-824-0414

CHURCH STREET SHOPPING

When Modern Was

Vintage Mexican Cuffs



Independent Nature Nursery

Native Plants, Perennials
Edibles, Herbs, Tools
1504 Church Street
415 642-1708

Loft 1513

One of a Kind
Clothing & Accessories
1513 Church Street
www.loft1513.com

When Modern Was

Vintage Jewelry and Home Décor
1504 Church Street 415 970-1030
www.whenmodernwas.com

Green Twig Salon

We use Aveda Exclusively
1515 Church Street
415 642-0229
www.greentwigsalon.com

La Sirena Botanica

Metaphysical Store
Readings & Candles
1509 Church Street
415 285-0612

No Longer a Free Ride for Shuttle Buses

City Drafts Rules for the Road

By Corrie M. Anders

Corporate shuttle services that bus high-tech and bio-tech workers between Noe Valley and their jobs on the Peninsula and in the South Bay aren't going away anytime soon.

But there are likely to be changes in the way the private shuttles operate, as San Francisco transit officials seek to alleviate residents' concerns about congestion, double parking, and illegal idling on neighborhood streets.

The San Francisco County Transportation Agency (CTA) issued a report Nov. 17, following a 10-month, citywide study carried out at the request of Supervisor Bevan Dufty.

The report recommends that Google, Yahoo, Genentech, Apple, Facebook, eBay, LinkedIn, and other Silicon Valley employers join with the city in establishing a voluntary sticker-certification program that would manage the private shuttle operations.

The companies would pay an as yet unspecified fee to fund a fulltime staff position to coordinate the program.

Together, the coordinator and shuttle operators would establish routes and pickup locations and determine whether



Private buses that shuttle Silicon Valley employees to and from Noe Valley may have to coordinate their routes and better accommodate Muni in the future. Photo by Pamela Gerard

shuttles could share space at Muni stops. Banned would be excessive noise, large buses that exceed weight limits for residential streets, and idling longer than three minutes.

Employers that chronically violated the program's guidelines could be decertified; in addition, formal complaints could be filed with state regulators. Even if firms chose not to participate in the certification program, they could face state sanctions for cumulative transgressions.

"If it [voluntary compliance] doesn't seem to be working, then we might have to go to another level of regulation," said Margaret Cortes, a senior transportation planner with the CTA.

There has been a proliferation of the

free, employer-operated shuttles in San Francisco over the past five years. The companies generally use 25-passenger vans or 50-passenger motor coaches, some of which are larger than Muni buses.

According to the report, the shuttles transport approximately 2,000 employees a day citywide, with the heaviest concentration of stops in Noe Valley, Glen Park, and along the Van Ness Avenue corridor.

An agency survey of morning rush-hour pickups showed that weekday shuttles make 37 stops in Noe Valley—12 at 24th and Castro streets, seven at 24th and Guerrero streets, and six each at 24th and Dolores streets, 30th and Church streets, and 30th and Guerrero streets.

In nearby neighborhoods, shuttles

make 27 morning stops at the Glen Park BART Station and another 10 in the Mission District at 24th and Valencia streets.

The agency's analysis also found that the shuttles were providing clear environmental benefits.

The report said 63 percent of passengers in a survey conducted in May said they would have driven solo to work without the shuttle services. From that data, the agency extrapolated that the shuttle buses annually eliminated 327,000 commuter trips and 8,000 to 9,500 tons of carbon emissions.

There was also a windfall for San Francisco merchants. The report said shuttle passengers spent an extra \$1.8 million a year patronizing local businesses en route to the shuttle stop or returning home. ■

The transit agency was scheduled to hold public hearings on its shuttle recommendations Dec. 8, 10:30 a.m., in Room 263 at City Hall. You can view the report at www.sfcta.org/shuttleSAR.

NEW!

Solve the *Voice* Crossword online!

Get hints, peek at answers, or print out an old puzzle to work with pencil and paper.

Go to

www.noevalleyvoice.com.

The **ONLY** school in San Francisco offering all this...under **ONE ROOF!**

infants-5th grade

Reggio-inspired experimental education
Cool camp (Yosemite overnights)

Organic cooking classes

De Colores Spanish Culture & Language Program

Learning Differences addressed through a progressive, academic curriculum



415-821-1434

1335 Guerrero Street

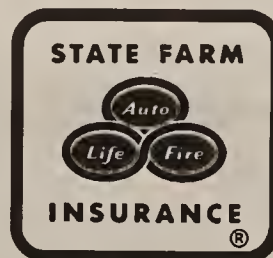
www.KatherineMichielsSchool.org

"We have enough color-by-number people.
We need kids who can think!"

BEV BOSS (EDUCATOR)

"Good service, good coverage, good price —

That's State Farm Insurance."



Susan Levinson, Agent
1501 Church Street
San Francisco, California
California license #0685450
415-647-3007

Like a good neighbor,
State Farm is there.®

STATE FARM INSURANCE COMPANIES • HOME OFFICES: BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

Lovejoy's

Tea Room



*Cheers to a new year and another
chance for us to get it right!*

Oprah Winfrey

1351 Church Street AT CLIPPER

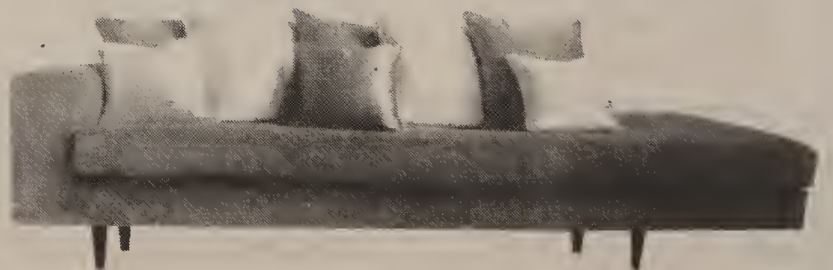
415-648-5895

Reservations Recommended • Catering Available

WEDNESDAY — SUNDAY 11:00 A.M. — 6:00 P.M.

Closed Mondays and Tuesdays

CHIP OFF THE OL' IMAGINATION.



Start with hundreds of sofa, sectional and fabric options.
Throw in our design experience. And, we'll deliver a piece that
reflects your personality and imagination.

KOHLER JONES

CUSTOM FURNITURE & DESIGN

1747 CHURCH @ DAY • MON - CLOSED • TUES - THURS 11 - 6 • FRI - SAT - SUN 11 - 5 • 415 643 6309

St. Philip the Apostle Church725 Diamond Street @ 24th Street
415-282-0141**CHRISTMAS SERVICES**
2009**Christmas Eve, Thursday, December 24***Vigil of Christmas*Children's / Family Mass: 5:00 p.m.
Christmas Carols: 9:30 p.m.
Evening Mass: 10:00 p.m.**Christmas Day, Friday, December 25***Mass of the Lord's Nativity*

Mass: 9:30 a.m.

December 27, SundaySaturday Vigil, 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.**January 1, Friday***Mary, Mother of God,*

Mass: 9:00 a.m.

January 3, Sunday*Epiphany of the Lord*Saturday Vigil 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.*Traditional Christmas Music at all Masses**Join us, for the Nativity Celebration of our Lord...
Come Home for Christmas, in the heart of Noe Valley!***Saint Philip's
Church**

100 YEARS OF SERVING NOE VALLEY

Join us for Christmas

(and all year long)!

**The Episcopal Church
Welcomes You****St. John the Evangelist
and****El Buen Samaritano**Dec. 24 10:30 pm Carol Sing
11:00 pm Midnight Mass
(in English)Dec. 25 10:00 am Christmas Day Mass
(in English)
12:30 pm Christmas Day Mass
(in Spanish)

1661 Fifteenth Street @ Julian Ave. (North Mission)

(415) 861-1436

www.saintjohnsf.org**Make a difference —
now and all year long**Since 1986, the Chronicle
Season of Sharing Fund
has given more than
\$66 million to our
neighbors in need.One hundred percent of
the money raised goes
directly to those who
need it most.*The Season of Sharing
never ends.***The Chronicle Season
of Sharing Fund helped
Kamilah Taylor and her three
children pull together a security
deposit and move to a new
apartment after the landlord of
her duplex fell into foreclosure.****Learn how you can help.
Visit seasonofsharing.org
for more information.****CHRONICLE
SEASON OF SHARING FUND****100% of contributions goes to our community.**

NAME _____ My contribution of \$ _____ is enclosed.

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

You may publish: ☐ My name - ☐ The amount of my contribution**I wish to designate my contribution:** ☐ In memory of: OR ☐ In honor of:

NAME _____

I choose to make my contribution via: (indicate method)☐ Check ☐ Money Order ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCardMake check payable to: **Chronicle Season of Sharing Fund**

ACCOUNT # _____

EXP. DATE _____

SIGNATURE _____

Mail to: CHRONICLE SEASON OF SHARING FUND, P.O. BOX 44740, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94144The Chronicle Season of Sharing Fund is a non-profit charity administered by the San Francisco Chronicle. All expenses are covered by the Chronicle, interest generated by the Fund and support from the Evelyn & Walter Haas, Jr. Fund. For the past 23 years, 100% of your donations has gone to help our neighbors in need. Funds are distributed quarterly, and donations can be made all year round. Contributions are tax-deductible.**FOR MORE INFO OR TO DONATE ONLINE, PLEASE LOG ONTO WWW.SEASONOFSHARING.ORG****Saint Paul's Parish
Christmas Schedule 2009**ST. PAUL'S PARISH COMMUNITY WARMLY INVITES
YOU AND YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS TO SHARE
WITH US THE LOVE THAT IS CHRISTMAS.**Advent Communal Reconciliation**

TUESDAY, DEC. 22

7:00 pm

Reconciliation (Confessions)

THURSDAY, DEC. 24

11:00 am – Noon

Christmas Eve Masses

THURSDAY, DEC. 24

4:30 pm — Family Mass with Children's Choir
8:00 pm — Mass in English with Adult Choir
12:00 Midnight – Bilingual Mass with Adult Choir**Christmas Day Masses**

FRIDAY, DEC. 25

8:00 am, 9:15 am, and 5:00 pm

There will be no 10:45 or 12:15 pm Mass on December 25

New Year's Day Mass

FRIDAY, JAN. 1, 2010

9:15 am (English)

**Merry Christmas, Joyeux Noel, Feliz Navidad,
Maligayang Pasko, Buon Natale****221 Valley Street****San Francisco, California 94131 • 415-648-7538**

Local Drive to Build Schools in Pakistan And Afghanistan

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

cles Mortenson's failed 1993 attempt at summiting Pakistan's K2 mountain and the descent that nearly proved disastrous when the disoriented and exhausted mountain climber became lost without food, water, or shelter. Mortenson eventually stumbled into a small village, whose impoverished Pakistani residents devoted their precious few resources to nursing him back to health. During his recovery, Mortenson watched as children of the village, too poor to have its own school or to pay a teacher's salary, practiced lessons in the dirt using sticks instead of pencils or paper. The experience, and the kindness the villagers showed toward him, led Mortenson to make a promise: he would one day return and build a school for the people that had saved his life.

After a series of fundraising challenges and logistical hurdles ranging from fat was issued against him to an armed kidnapping, Mortenson succeeded in building the school. But he didn't stop there. Mortenson co-founded the nonprofit Central Asia Institute (CAI) to build more schools. The organization's ongoing projects now total some 130 schools in rural Pakistan and Afghanistan and place a special emphasis on literacy for girls as a means of fostering stability, peace, and economic empowerment.

"I was blown away. I thought what this one man did was so phenomenal. He's done more for building peace than most governments have done," says McBride, who has lived in Noe Valley for a decade.

While the new schools offer education to all children in the villages in which



Bill McBride (left) chats with potential volunteers Karl Schultz and Larry Kaplun (right) in front of the Noe Valley Farmers' Market on 24th Street. Photo by Pamela Gerard

they are built, their offer of classes to women and girls is noteworthy in a part of the world where formal schooling is often unavailable to females. Also notable is the CAI's commitment to involving the community in the building of each new school.

"It's all local engagement. [The CAI] gets the materials, but the people there build it. It's *their* school," emphasizes McBride, 56.

Author of two novels about teaching—the widely read *Entertaining an Elephant* (1997) and a sequel, *Carrying a Load of Feathers* (May 2009)—and a speaker and educator who trains teachers around the country on such topics as student engagement and gender differences, McBride is no stranger to the power of education.

"Great teaching is inspirational... we're going to do whatever it takes to raise \$34,000," says McBride, whose

fundraising experience began before his arrival in San Francisco 17 years ago.

While living in Chicago and volunteering in a home for people dying of AIDS, McBride compiled and published a cookbook composed of recipes from local restaurants. The book ultimately raised over \$100,000 to support people dying of AIDS. McBride also has raised over \$100,000 for AIDS causes in San Francisco by donating half of every sale of *Entertaining an Elephant* to the AIDS charities supported by Under One Roof.

McBride's current fundraising campaign hopes to raise enough to build a CAI school in the name of the people of San Francisco. The \$34,000 price tag would cover the cost of building the school, and employee salaries and facility maintenance for the school's first two years.

He and other volunteers kicked off the drive in November with a display in front

of the Noe Valley Farmers' Market and a gathering at McBride's home. They also manned a table outside Phoenix Books, where they handed out information about *Three Cups of Tea* and the Central Asia Institute's programs and goals.

"People wanted to help. We got a lot of thank-you's," says McBride, noting that four people mailed checks totaling \$400 within days of his first outing.

Along with more outreach in the coming months, McBride hopes to collaborate with neighborhood schools to launch local versions of CAI's national Pennies for Peace program (P4P), which encourages children to collect and save pennies for projects in Pakistan and Afghanistan.

"Little kids often think, 'I'm just a little kid. I can't do anything.' When they've helped [a project like P4P], it empowers them for the rest of their lives about what they can produce when they come together," McBride says.

He hopes supporting CAI projects will appeal to San Franciscans at a time when many are frustrated with the ongoing conflict, violence, and political unrest in Central Asia.

"Americans right now feel powerless about what to do in Afghanistan and Pakistan. This is an alternative, a long-term alternative, a fifth column in Afghanistan and Pakistan to tear down the ignorance and the lies of the Taliban. And to do it peacefully, without dropping bombs," McBride says.

Anyone interested in volunteering can contact McBride at drbilly@comcast.net or visit the CAI website at www.ikat.org. Donations may be mailed to the Central Asia Institute, c/o Dr. Bill McBride, 432 Vicksbury Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. Make checks payable to the Central Asia Institute.

Is a Will still on your to-do list? Need to nominate guardians for your kids? Don't have a lot of money right now but still wake up at night worrying about the 'what-ifs'? Don't panic!

Panic-free Planning Workshops

Get the basics in place without breaking the bank.
\$215 per person or \$330 per couple

check website for Winter schedule

Amy Shelf

Counselor at Law

amy@amyshef.com (415) 643-1292

www.amyshef.com

also offering a full-service estate planning and probate practice

interior design

www.raneredesigngroup.com

**Join Us for a
Holiday Party!**

episode
Salon & Spa

Friday, December 11th, 2009
at 7 p.m.

EPIISODE SALON
1360 Church Street • San Francisco 94114

Raffle Prizes • Food • Drink

INTEGRAL COUNSELING CENTER AT CHURCH STREET

AFFORDABLE, RELIABLE, CARING COUNSELING
SERVICES FOR THE NOE VALLEY COMMUNITY.

The Integral Counseling Center offers mind-body-spirit psychotherapy to individuals, couples, and families, providing a safe and supportive setting to explore a wide range of life issues—emotional, interpersonal, psychological, or spiritual.

- Relationship and Family Concerns
- Anxiety and Stress
- Depression and Loneliness
- Abuse Issues
- Grief and Loss
- Sexuality/Body Image
- Life Transitions/Crises
- Occupational Concerns/Choices
- Personal Growth/Spiritual Issues

1782 CHURCH ST., SAN FRANCISCO • 415.648.2644
WWW.INTEGRALCOUNSELINGCENTER.ORG

CIIS
Center for Integrative and Transformative Studies

Annual Do-It-Yourself

Holy Innocents Family Christmas Pageant

455 Fair Oaks Street,
San Francisco
www.holyinsf.org

**All costumes provided*

lots -of- FUN!

All are welcome!

December 24 • Christmas Eve 6 o'clock
All Costumes Provided • Refreshments Following

Christmas Eve Midnight Mass begins at 11pm
preceded by a program of Christmas Music at 10:30

Holy Eucharist with Carols on Christmas Day at 11am

Holy Innocents

NOE VALLEY MINISTRY

Presbyterian Church, USA

1021 Sanchez Street at 23rd Street 415-282-2317

Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m. Childcare provided
Rev. Keenan C. Kelsey, Pastor

The Reason for the Season
Peace ★ Love ★ Hope ★ Joy

Zechariah's Song

Advent Two: Sunday, December 6, 10:30 a.m.

Candlelight Labyrinth Walk

Wednesday, December 9, 6:30 p.m.

Children's Christmas Pageant

Room For All!

Advent Three: Sunday, December 13, 10:30 a.m.

Mary's Song

Advent Four: Sunday, December 20, 10:30 a.m.

Seasonal Jazz Vespers

Advent Four: Sunday, December 20, 5 p.m.

The Paul Sheffert Trio

Christmas Eve Family Worship

Thursday, December 24, 5:30 p.m.

Special Music, Scripture, Message, Circle of Candles

Christmas Worship Celebration

Sunday, December 27, 10:30 a.m.

New Year's Eve, Thursday, December 31, 7 p.m.

Service of Remembrance and Resolution

www.noevalleyministry.org

Noe Valley Ministry is an Inclusive Church, Welcoming to LGBT

HOME STAGERS

We're offering
HOLIDAY DECORATING SERVICES

Today, it seems that some HOLIDAY is always just around the corner. We can help take some stress off your busy holiday schedule.

Let us help you decorate your home, apartment, or business setting to your hearts content.

- Party Venue Set-up and Decorating
- Installation of holiday lights and decorations (existing or new)
- Set-up and decorating of holiday trees
- Installation and Set-up of interior/exterior decorations
- Table settings and table top displays
- Find and purchase new decorations
- Floral Arrangements and Centerpieces

Call us Today to find out more.
415.285.9911
email us at info@homestagersinc.com

Hidden Cottage Bed and Breakfast
1186 Noe Street

We wish to thank our friends and neighbors for their business in 2009. Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. — Ginger Karels-Cannata Family

for reservations call (415) 282-4492 www.hidden-cottage.com

Ginger Karels invites you to also call with your **REAL ESTATE** needs in 2010

I have "good news".
FREE CONSULTATIONS
noe@aol.com
415-297-4492

T-Mobile 'Gets More' and More Antennas

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the most visually appalling boxes."

Luke Tran also was troubled last month to find work crews putting up sets of antennas and boxes on two poles near the intersection of Noe and 28th streets.

Tran said he was worried about the potential health effects of radio-frequency radiation exposure and that the antennas might decrease the value of the Noe Street home he purchased two years ago.

"No one notified me. I think that's unfair," said Tran, an accountant.

Unfair or not, San Francisco lacks authority to require hearings for cell phone equipment installed on public rights of way, such as streets and sidewalks. That's because regulation of wireless communication companies falls under federal and state jurisdiction.

Frustrated, Tran founded the Noe Valley Group to raise awareness in the neighborhood, although his battle to block the current crop of T-Mobile antennas may be lost.

"It's kind of too late to stop them because they're half built," he said. "But you can at least get the message out. Who's to say that Horizon or some other company wouldn't start building them and...it just snowballs into quite a bit more."

In addition to the public sites near the homes of Tran and Rosen, T-Mobile antennas are being installed at the corner of Fair Oaks and 23rd Street and on Sanchez Street near Alvarado Street.

The antenna equipment is contained within a stack of four brown boxes—two the size of suitcases—strapped onto utility poles about two stories high. In addition, the poles have a 10-foot extension at the top to hold a "radome," which is a weatherproof cylinder that houses three antennas.

Rod De La Rosa, a T-Mobile senior manager, said the company met "all rel-

evant and appropriate siting guidelines and regulations" before the work began. That included getting the requisite environmental exemptions, which the city's Planning Department granted Sept. 16.

He disagreed that the antennas hurt property values. "While there has been public concern about the impact these sites may have on property values..., to date there is no factual evidence that shows that there is an adverse effect."

The city's Department of Public Health addressed the radiation issue as part of T-Mobile's exemption request. The department said the maximum emissions the antennas would produce would be 19 percent of "applicable public exposure limits."

The city does have authority to regulate and hold public hearings for antennas on private property.

But a representative for Mayor Gavin Newsom could offer Tran little more than sympathy.

"I agree with you that the process is unfair and unbalanced," Alex Randolph, the mayor's liaison to District 8, wrote Tran and his wife, Eva Yuen, in an email:

"The City has unfortunately not a lot to regulate when a utility company like T-Mobile wants to install cell towers on public property. No hearings or notice is required for that to take place," he noted.

Randolph said that the mayor's office "has dealt with similar issues with AT&T and other wireless companies and we lost in court every single time, since the state government is the entity that has jurisdiction in this area."

However, a Ninth Circuit federal appeals court recently issued a ruling that would allow San Francisco more oversight in the future, according to San Francisco activist Doug Loranger.

The Oct. 14 decision, in a case involving Sprint and the city of Palos Verdes Estates in Southern California, gives "local governments the right to regulate on aesthetic grounds," said Loranger, a co-founder of the San Francisco Neighborhood Antenna-Free Union (SNAFU).

The San Francisco Board of Supervisors would have to enact the necessary



Neighbors were surprised by the sudden appearance last month of T-Mobile antennas and equipment boxes on two poles at 28th and Noe streets.

Photo by Sally Smith

legislation.

"Residents should be frustrated and angry they are not getting notices...in light of these recent court cases giving local governments authority to regulate more stringently," Loranger said.

That captures Tran's sentiments, though he's no Luddite. Like most peo-

ple, his cell phone is an integral part of his life.

"My point is there are already enough of them up and ruining," he said. "There's not a single place in Noe Valley where I can't get coverage."

To contact the Noe Valley Group, email Tran at huketran@rocketmail.com. ■

Open Adoption

Pregnant? Adopting?

- You choose the parents
- Help with pregnancy expenses
- No fees for birth mom



- Infants • Toddlers
- Step Parent
- Domestic Partner
- International Re-adopt

Susan Romer, PH D.
Attorney at Law

1191 Church Street
near 24th Street

Law Offices of Adams & Romer

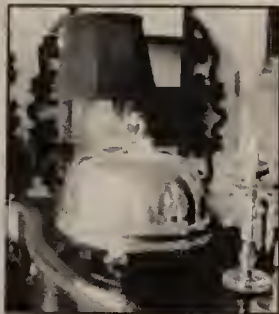
Practice Limited to Adoption

415-643-4523 • www.1-800-U-ADOPT-US.com

THE CITY Antiques

Come Celebrate the Holidays with us!

Festive Fridays from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.



Jazz Guitar: Dec. 4 (Wine & Sweets), Dec. 11 (Wassail & Savory Breads)
Christmas Choir: December 18 (Caroling & Champagne)

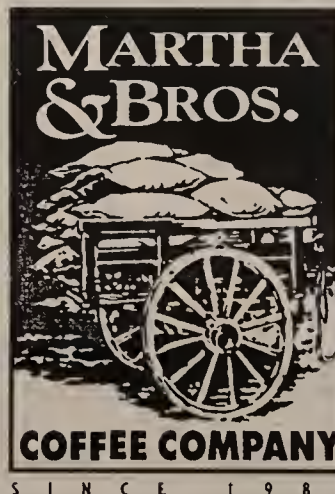
We're packed with Antiques, Fine Art, Jewelry, Furniture, Oriental Pieces, China, Crystal, decorative items and gifts, from the quirky to the traditional.

10% Discount with this Ad

Expires 12/31/09

199 West Portal Avenue : 415.759.8022

Mon-Sat: 10:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Sunday: Noon - 5 p.m.



3868 24th Street • 641-4433
1551 Church (at Duncan) • 648-1166
745 Cortland Avenue • 642-7585
2800 California Street • 931-2281

We Roast Our Own!

Try Our New FAIR TRADE Blend

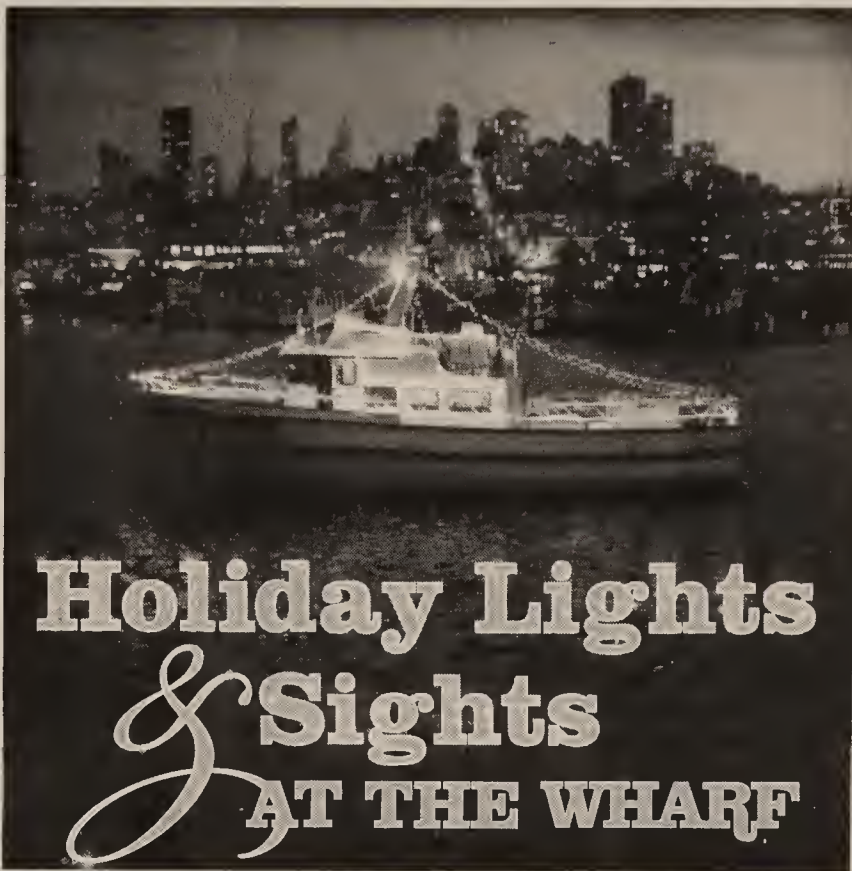
Custom Drinks • Custom Teas
Healthy Breakfasts

TRY OUR HOLIDAY BLENDS!

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL
OUR NOE VALLEY
FRIENDS AND CUSTOMERS**

**\$1 OFF ANY
1 LB. OF COFFEE**
(except those on sale)

DECEMBER ONLY, WITH THIS AD



Holiday Lights & Sights AT THE WHARF

View the Fisherman's Wharf Fishing Fleet decorated with lights for the holiday season.

Feast at Wharf Restaurants for traditional holiday dining.

Join us on Friday, December 11 at 6:00 pm for the Holiday Lights Boat Parade presented by the Fisherman's Wharf Community Benefit District and the St. Francis Yacht Club. Viewing will be along the waterfront from Crissy Field to PIER 39.



For more information go to www.visitfishermanswharf.com

Drewes Bros. Meats

San Francisco Butchers since 1889

1706 Church St. corner of 29th

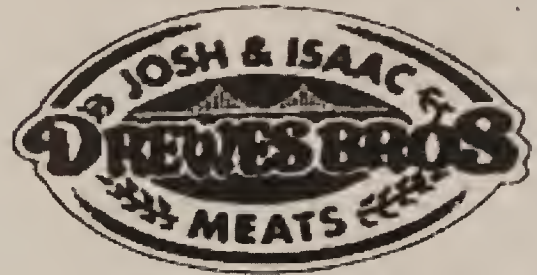
(415) 821-0515

www.drewesbros.com

Support your locally owned butcher shop

Serving Noe Valley for 120 years!!!

Specializing in Free Range, 100% Grass Fed &
All Natural Meats, Poultry and Fresh Fish



Come check out our new wine section, our wines
are selected specifically to pair with a variety of
meats

Go online to www.drewesbros.com or call (415) 821-0515
to place your holiday order

GLOBAL  EXCHANGE fairtrade

Holiday Gift List

Pledge consumer consciousness
this holiday season
by buying Fair Trade gifts
for everyone on your list!

*Alpaca knit hats, scarves, and gloves for the whole family; cotton black-print tablecloths,
napkins and hand-painted dishware for the holiday table; functional art made from
recycled magazines, tires and pull tabs; and jewelry from around the world.*

What's on your Global Exchange gift list?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____

Present a completed gift list at the following Global Exchange locations

4018 24th St, San Francisco CA 94114

2840 College Ave, Berkeley CA 94705

3508 SE Hawthorne Blvd, Portland OR 97214

upon purchase to receive 10% discount on list items! Item total must exceed \$50.

• Offer not extended to food items, sale items or in conjunction with other product specials.

www.globalexchange.org

STEP OUT IN HOLIDAY STYLE WITH

ASTRID'S Rabat Shoes



3909 24th Street (at Sanchez) San Francisco • (415) 282-7400

M-F 11 - 6:30 • Sat. 10 - 6:30 • Sun. 11 - 6

www.astridsrabatshoes.com

Parking Meters May Start Ticking Longer on 24th St.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

6 p.m. (at a cost of \$2 an hour). The new plan would extend those hours until 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and to midnight on Friday and Saturday. It also would activate the meters on Sundays from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. (The Sunday change would be citywide.)

The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (MTA) proposed the longer hours to speed up turnover of parking spaces, which it maintains would increase the number of potential customers at nearby stores and businesses. The city also would collect an estimated \$8.8 million a year in additional profits.

Howls of the Night Owls

However, some wonder if the plan will backfire.

Twenty-fifth Street resident Gary Lindquist said he generally walks two blocks to patronize 24th Street restaurants and taverns. His out-of-neighborhood friends, however, drive to Noe Valley.

"It's an impediment, another obstacle to come to a neighborhood that offers nighttime entertainment," said Lindquist, a retired real estate executive. "It's not a good thing."

Pierre Letheule, the owner of Bliss Bar, which draws large weekend crowds, also votes thumbs-down.

"You're in a bar and having fun, and all of a sudden you have to go out and feed the meter until 12 o'clock," he said. "That's ridiculous."

Letheule added that "if it passes, we should protest and close businesses for a couple of days. This is unheard of."

Start Rolling Quarters

Robert Roddick, president of the Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association, said the majority of business owners on 24th and Castro streets were

firmly against the extended hours.

"Who wants to carry a roll of quarters with them at night?" Roddick said, contemplating the extra money drivers would need to bring along on business and social outings.

He said store owners worried that the meter-minding—and the increased likelihood of getting an expensive \$50 parking ticket—would drive shoppers away from the neighborhood.

"We're battling that as it is," he said. "This would be the coup de grâce."

Parking "More Convenient"

In an Oct. 13 report on a new Extended Meter Hours Study, the transit agency insisted that the changes would aid retailers, not hurt them. It said the plan would reduce double parking, parking in bus zones and at fire hydrants, and the endless circling around the block in search of legal parking.

"In short, metering parking at busy times...helps to create more open parking spaces, more turnover, and will generate more customers for local businesses," the report said. "Parking won't be free, but it will be more convenient."

The transportation agency first proposed a parking plan in April that was a more general, one-size-fits-all scheme. That proposal was refined this fall in an effort to tailor the longer hours to the unique conditions of individual neighborhoods.

Solidly Packed on Sundays

Last month, agency officials explained the plan to residents during meetings of the Upper Noe Neighbors and the Noe Valley Democratic Club. As outlined in the proposal, the changes would affect parking meters along 24th Street from Castro to Chattanooga streets (and on a couple of blocks of Castro on either side of 24th).

They noted that metered parking spaces along the 24th Street strip currently are 94 percent full on Friday evenings and jam-packed on Sundays between 9:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., when drivers who illegally park on sidewalks and in

driveways push occupancy to 102 percent.

In the new scenario, motorists would be allowed to pay for parking for a maximum four hours after 6 p.m. on weeknights—three more than the current one-hour limit on parking during the day. The proposed four-hour limit would also apply to Sunday parking.

24th Street Car Owners in a Pinch

Twenty-fourth Street residents, most of whom live in second- and third-floor apartments above shops and businesses, may be the ones most affected, should the longer meter hours go into effect. They park free on 24th Street after work on weekdays and all day Sunday—that is, if they can find a space. The new plan would force them to pay or find parking elsewhere.

"If I were a resident, I'd be more upset," said Carol Yenne, who operates Small Frys, a 24th Street children's clothing store. She wondered how 24th Street residents could host a dinner party, with their guests having "to go up and down two flights of stairs to feed a frigging meter."

Yenne suggested that the city give those who live on metered blocks special stickers that would allow free parking during the extended hours.

Debra Niemann, executive director of the Noe Valley Association, the community benefit district (CBD) that represents property owners on 24th Street, also wanted to tweak the parking plan.

"I think it will be more palatable" if some of the additional revenue is returned to Noe Valley, Niemann said. "I'm all for it if they give some of that money back to the community. The CBD is a great way to do it."

What's Driving the Measure

The extra metering does have fans in the neighborhood. Residents who have chosen not to own a car for environmen-

tal reasons (or who can't afford one) back the plan because it discourages driving.

And there is unspoken support among the merchants, said Gwen Sanderson, former president and current vice president of the merchants association. She said a number of restaurant owners have told her that a faster turnover of parking spaces will help their businesses, but they don't want to say so publicly for fear of alienating customers.

The parking situation "does need to be managed better," said Sanderson.

To gauge sentiment among its membership, the NVMPA began circulating a survey on the proposed changes last month. The results will be discussed at the association's Jan. 19 business meeting.

Does the new plan pass muster with the mayor and Board of Supervisors?

Mayor Gavin Newsom has indicated he is opposed to extending parking meter hours, and District 8 Supervisor Bevan Dufty is not inclined to make any changes.

"Until Supervisor Dufty hears from merchants that they are supportive of extending the hours of parking meters, he is not supportive of any changes," said Boe Hayward, Dufty's legislative aide.

You can view the Extended Meter Hours Study at www.sfmta.com. At press time, the MTA board was continuing to take public comment, but no vote had been scheduled.



Nancy Duncan

Pet Sitting & Behavioral Consultations

415.282.PETS

Specializing in the needs of cats

info@myfurryfriend.net

Bonded & Insured
Member of NAPPS



Janet Moyer Landscaping is a full-service landscaping company specializing in sustainable landscapes

One of the "100 Fastest Growing Private Companies" in the Bay Area
SF Business Times, October 24, 2008

Award winning design—"Outstanding Achievement" Award California Landscape Contractors Association, 2007

415-821-3760 • 1031 Valencia Street, San Francisco • jmoyerlandscaping.com

Landscape Contractor License 853919 • Pest Control License 36389

hightail
hotel

Cage Free

Eco-Friendly

Daycare 7 Days a Week

Staffed 24 Hours a Day

Short and Long Term Boarding

Pick-up and Delivery Available

High Tail Hotel
2275 Revere Ave., San Francisco
415.913.7101
www.HightailHotel.com

NOMAD
RUGS



15 GREAT
YEARS IN
NOE VALLEY!

3775 24TH STREET

415.401.8833

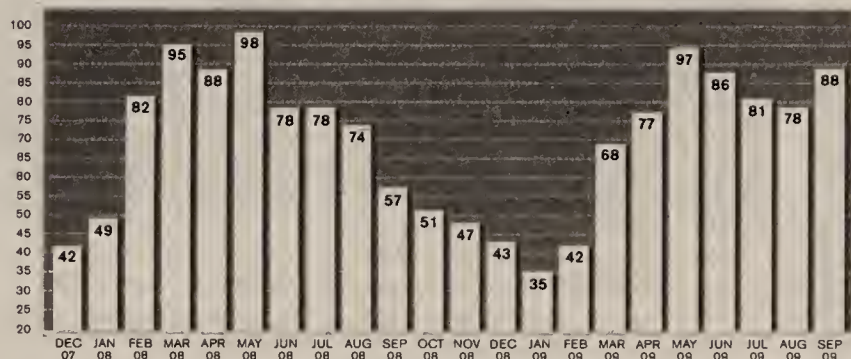
WWW.NOMADRUGS.COM

WILL YOU BE READY?

Statistics show that Spring is the best time to sell your home, when the volume of sales surge between February and May.

Properly preparing your home and your family for a sale requires vision, planning and time. Make sure you're ready to take advantage of the best moment in the market...

Develop a Smart Marketing Strategy NOW!



San Francisco Home Sales

Call us to learn about 10 CRITICAL STEPS that can mean the difference between a quick, successful sale and a property that languishes on the market.

- Will repairs or cosmetic improvements add to your home's value?
- Has your building permit history been properly documented?
- Are you compliant with the latest SF water conservation ordinance?
- What steps need to be taken to find a suitable place to move?



Harry Clark
415.971.0608
Harry@GetReal-SF.com

Danny Fernandez
415.829.8232
Danny@GetReal-SF.com



**HAPPY HOLIDAYS
TO ALL OUR NOE VALLEY
FRIENDS AND CUSTOMERS**

**4001 24TH ST AT NOE
SAN FRANCISCO
415-282-7861**

**2080 CHESTNUT AT STEINER
SAN FRANCISCO
415-929-8868**

**1440 BURLINGAME AVENUE
BURLINGAME
650-558-0175**

**1825 4TH ST AT HEARST
BERKELEY
510-549-9195**

rabat

WWW.RABATSHOES.COM

Happy Holidays

FROM THE STAFF OF

NOE VALLEY DELI

American & Middle Eastern Grill

Celebrating 30 Years!

FEATURING:

GOURMET SANDWICHES & SALADS * FALAFEL, SHAWARMA * Grilled Chicken
& Steak Subs * Burgers & Fries * PARTY TRAYS AND SPANAKOPITA

FOR QUICK SERVICE & CATERING,

Call Karim or Rami at (415) 824-8373

4007 24th Street • Open 7 Days

Stonehouse Olive Oil Refills

Exciting news! You can now refill your Stonehouse Olive Oil bottles at your neighborhood cookware shop. We're refilling the House Oil and one other flavor. Of course we still offer the House Oil and all your other favorites like Blood Orange and Lisbon Lemon in bottles as well.

Drop by for a refill or to pick up a bottle or two for gifts. And don't forget – we ship! Take the hassle out of your gift-giving by letting us wrap and ship your gifts.

We offer speedy weekly knife sharpening. Drop off Sunday by 6pm. Pick up Tuesday after 11am.

**COOKS
BOULEVARD**

1309 Castro St. @ 24th
(415) 647-2665

Vampire Book the First of Two for Author Clare Willis

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

parties and drink each other's blood. "That got me thinking about wannabe vampires," says Willis. "And how a real vampire could use them as a cover."

Zebra Books, an imprint of Kensington, is selling *Once Bitten* in paperback format for \$4.99. "I'm part of a debut authors program at Kensington, introducing new authors at a low price to induce readers to give us a try," says Willis. "Our subsequent books go up in price."



Once Bitten was a gleam in Clare Willis' eye long before the *Twilight* movie frenzy.

Photo courtesy David Allen Studio

She is currently writing another paranormal romance about vampires set in San Francisco for Kensington, although she's not sure of the publication date. The second book is not a sequel to *Once Bitten*, but rather a story that will stand on its own, she says.

Willis is also working on a paranormal novella that's a ghost story—it will be part of a Kensington anthology published later this year. "I wanted to break away from the vampires for a little while." She says the heroine of that story, titled *My Soul to Take*, is someone who is skeptical about ghosts, but then the scales fall from her eyes as she encounters spirits from the great beyond.

Willis pens "normal" lit, too. She has written a couple of unpublished novels, one a young adult book and the other a

historic novel set in Boston. "I just love to write, and I haven't settled into a particular genre."

Still, the raging popularity of vampire fiction can't be ignored. "I'm sure *Twilight* is the reason *Once Bitten* is getting published now," says Willis, referring to the four-book young adult series by Arizona phenom Stephenie Meyer. So far, Meyer's series has spun off two feature films, *Twilight* and *New Moon*, and sent teenage girls worldwide into a tizzy. "When I started writing my book, vampires were not the hot commodity they are now. The timing was right."

Originally from Berkeley, Willis has lived in Noe Valley since 1995. She has worked as an education writer and teacher, and was part of a large-scale education reform project sponsored by Harvard University. She has two sons, ages 11 and 13, and after they were born she began working freelance, "which segued into creative writing." Her husband, Vail Reese, is a dermatologist with an office in the "beautiful, historic building at 450 Sutter Street."

Willis calls herself an amateur historian, and she leads tours of the Haas-Lilienthal House on Franklin Street, as well as heritage hikes for third-graders around Pacific Heights. "In school, they're taught about San Francisco history as well as the architecture," she says. "The students learn about what life was like for Victorian children."

Willis' familiarity with Victorian history and culture, particularly in San Francisco, came in handy when writing many of the scenes in *Once Bitten*. In chapter 17 of the 352-page book, her lead character Angie, afraid her boyfriend might be more than a little different, seeks out a vampire expert who lives in a classic Victorian that has all the trappings of the era. (See excerpt at right.)

The gothic atmosphere of fiction by Southern writers like Donna Tartt and Tim Gautreaux appeals to Willis. "There's no way I'll ever be a Southern writer, but I find plenty of those gothic elements in San Francisco."

Once Bitten is available at Phoenix Books and the San Francisco Mystery Bookstore, both on 24th Street. To find out more, go to www.clarewillis.com.



From *Once Bitten*, a 'paranormal romance' by Clare Willis

The address Nicolai had given me was a large apartment building on the corner of 16th and Guerrero, a gray three-story citadel with security gates on all the entryways and first-floor windows. I rang the bell on the middle door, and while the buzzer sounded I pushed open the metal gate. There were three flights of creaky wooden stairs before I reached flat number twelve.

A tall thin man answered my knock. A snarl of shoulder-length black hair framed a white face marked by black eyebrows and a black goatee. He wore black leather pants, black boots, and a frilly white pirate shirt. He looked to be in his mid-forties.

He shook my hand with a cold, moist palm. "I am Nicolai Blaloc. You must be Angela." He squinted at me as if his eyesight was bad. "Please come into the parlor."

I couldn't suppress a gasp when I entered his "parlor." Normally, Victorian apartments bear only the most vague resemblance to what they looked like when Queen V was alive, but Nicolai's made me feel like I'd walked into a time machine. Every inch of wall and ceiling was draped or painted or covered in ornate floral patterns, one laid upon the other in dizzying profusion. A mansion's worth of silk and gilt furniture packed the little room. He even had a baby grand piano with a piece of silky fabric tossed over it. Every table held a collection—crystal figurines, snuffboxes, and tiny pictures in silver frames. He also had an assortment of stuffed birds, some of them under glass bell jars, others mounted on the wall, a few in bamboo cages. The birds gave me the creeps; they all seemed to be staring at me with their glassy eyes. To complete the effect, the room was lit with flickering gas lamps. After giving me a few moments to take in the scenery, Nicolai directed me to sit in one of the high-backed chairs.

"Angela, you look somewhat ill at ease. May I offer you a drink? A glass of wine, perhaps?"

"I'll have a glass of wine, sure."

He passed through a curtain-draped archway and returned a few minutes later with two glasses of red wine in tulip-shaped glasses. Nicolai arranged himself on the couch opposite from me. Somewhere in the apartment several grandfather clocks chimed.

Nicolai leaned back and stroked his goatee, as candlelight flickered on his face. He looked like Sigmund Freud in hell. "Tell me what you have been experiencing."

Where to begin, how much to tell, how much to trust? I had to tell him some of the truth if he was going to be any help to me. "My boss, Lucy Westover, is dead. It looks like she was killed by a vampire, or someone who wanted to make it look like a vampire's work. The police are after Les Banks, her boyfriend. He's the one who gave me your name. Les says he didn't do it, that Lucy was killed by a 'real vampire.' The man he was referring to is someone I've been, uh, seeing."

I rubbed my eyes. "This man I've met, he has told me some things that are hard to believe."

"But things have been happening to you that you cannot explain by natural causes."

Startled, I pitched forward to get a better look at Nicolai. "Yes, that's right."

"You are experiencing unusual symptoms. Nausea, headaches, a desire for darkness. Loss of appetite. You hear voices."

"Yes, that's right." My voice was a whisper.

Nicolai spoke in a soothing monotone, as if he were hypnotizing me. "This man, he visits you at night. You have, shall we say, encounters, with him that are both frightening and..."

He paused. I gulped loudly.

"...exciting." He put out one finger and stroked the tail of a stuffed black bird perched on a branch-shaped pedestal. "Yet I'll warrant you could not describe the exact nature of these encounters, am I correct?"

I nodded, not trusting my voice to work properly.

"You are powerfully attracted to him, yes, Angela?"

"Who are you?" I was gripping my wineglass so hard I thought I might crack it.

He leaned back, smoothing the ruffles on the collar of his shirt. "I am simply an observer. I am a scholar, a historian, a researcher. I follow groups such as the one that convenes at the House of Usher because that is where you usually find them."

My mouth felt dry. "Find who?"

Printed with author's permission from *Once Bitten* by Clare Willis, copyright 2009 (Zebra Books, Kensington Publishing Corp., New York).



Give the Gift of Fitness!

25% off!

with this coupon, any one item*
use online code **jollyjane09**

seejanerun.com

San Francisco • Oakland • Danville • Boise

visit our noe valley store on 24th near sanchez

follow us on:

*1-per-customer! Cannot be combined with other promotions or used on events, training, electronics, wetsuits or sale items, good through 12-31-09

Isa's Anniversary




S
A
L
E

1/2 Price Color w/Haircut

cuts
colors
styling
perms

Not valid w/any other offer • Expires 2/28/10

Facial & Massage \$150

facials
massage
waxing
makeup artistry

Not valid w/any other offer • Expires 2/28/10

WALK-INS ALWAYS WELCOME!

415.641.8948 / 1401 Castro Street

NOE VALLEY PET COMPANY
A STORE FOR CATS & DOGS

seasons



greetings

The Most Fun Shopping
You'll Do All Season!

Happy Holidays to all our
Furry Friends!

1451 Church St. at Cesar Chavez
tel: 415 282 7385 | noevalleypet.com



WHO TO CALL AT CITY HALL

NVV 12/09

City Information Line	311
Aggressive Panhandling	415-553-0123
Burned-Out Streetlights Street Lighting and Repair	415-554-0730
Detox Mobile Assistance Patrol (MAP)	415-431-7400
District 8 Supervisor Bevan Dufty	415-554-6968
Graffiti/Tree Removal	415-695-2017
Hazardous Waste Disposal/Garbage Pickup	415-330-1300
Homeless Services Urgent Care Clinic	415-355-7400
Lost or Injured Animals Animal Care and Control	415-554-6364
Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services www.sfgov.org/mons	415-554-7111
NERT (Neighborhood Emergency Response Teams)	415-558-3456
Parking Enforcement DPT Dispatch	415-553-1200
Potholes potholes@sfdpw.org	415-695-2100
Recycling	415-554-7329
Street Signs, Damaged or Missing	415-554-9780
Street-Sweeping	415-554-6926
Traffic Signals Out	415-550-2736
Tree Planting	415-554-6700
24th Street Community Benefit District (CBD) Dispatch	415-559-8492
Utility Undergrounding Department of Public Works undergrounding@sfgov.org	415-554-6167

"Morality, like art, means drawing a line someplace."
—OSCAR WILDE, Irish playwright and author, 1854-1900

NOE'S BAR

Noe Valley's Original Sports Bar



Go Niners!

Located at the corner of 24th & Church

415-282-4007

★
FIREFLY
RESTAURANT
★

Food you eat.



4288 24th Street ★ San Francisco

415.821.7652 ★ fireflyrestaurant.com

prix-fix menu Sunday–Thursday ★ \$35 for 3 courses



Experience Counts

Over 30 Years in Real Estate

The Father/Daughter team that will make a
difference for you.

Karin Phillips
415.994.1598
karinphillips@zephyrsf.com

Don Woolhouse
415.971.7766
dwoolhouse@zephyrsf.com



Noe Valley Circle Branch the First in San Francisco

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Sterling, Chase, Wells Fargo, and Bank of America in the stretch of 24th Street between Church and Castro streets.

Novato-based Circle, which has four offices in Marin and Sonoma counties, won federal approval in early November to open the San Francisco branch, its first in the city.

Kim Kaselionis, the bank's president and CEO, said half of Circle's loan transactions were already with customers in San Francisco, so it made sense to open a branch on the other side of the bridge. "We feel right at home."

Kaselionis said Circle chose Noe Valley because the neighborhood's demographics are similar to those of the bank's home base and 24th Street has the same "feel" as downtown San Rafael or Petaluma. Circle hopes to open other San Francisco branches as well, she said.

The Noe Valley branch, scheduled to be unveiled in March after a \$60,000 remodeling, will be open from 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Since Kaselionis took the helm in 1995, the privately held Circle Bank has grown from a shaky institution with one office and \$11 million in assets into a regional player with \$255 million in assets, \$230 million in loans, and \$183 million in deposits. Circle Bancorp has reported a profit for 41 straight quarters—something many of its larger competitors can only dream about—and has earned a four-star rating from banking analyst Bauer Financial Inc.

In addition, Kaselionis said Circle was among just a handful of institutions in



Circle Bank is set to open a Noe Valley branch in March, after remodeling the two 24th Street storefronts formerly occupied by Aveda and Noe Valley Video. Aside from the outdoor ATM, there will be few exterior changes, but the bank plans to offer stroller parking, toys for kids, and a rest area for dogs.

Rendering courtesy Reppenhagen Design, Oakland

California that accepted IOUs during the state's fiscal crisis this summer.

The bank, which specializes in small-business, multifamily-housing, and TIC (tenants-in-common) lending, has signed a 10-year lease for the 2,331 square feet of space at 3936-38 24th Street, once filled by Noe Valley Video and Aveda skin care. An adjacent storefront, formerly occupied by nutritional supplement purveyor GNC, remains vacant.

Circle Bank plans to knock down the wall that separated Noe Valley Video and Aveda, open up the space, and paint a large mural inside depicting iconic San Francisco scenes.

Landlord Joe Cassidy said he was delighted to have found a tenant for the two empty storefronts. "There are a lot of vacant stores on this block," he said, noting the long-shuttered Real Food Company and Streetlight Records space across the street from his building. He said based on visits to Circle's two Marin branches, he thinks the bank will be a fine addition to the neighborhood.

"They're extremely friendly and welcoming to families," he said, crediting Kaselionis, the mother of three teenagers.

in keeping with the character and needs of the neighborhood. Certainly, empty retail space helps no one."

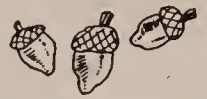
Robert Roddick, president of the Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association, said that while the NVMPA has not taken a position on the Circle Bank proposal, he believed Cassidy was going back on a 1998 pledge he made to the association to maintain four small retail spaces in the building and he might take the landlord to court.

Countered Cassidy: "I have no choice. Demand for retail space just isn't there."

Gwen Sanderson, proprietor of Video Wave on Castro Street and the NVMPA's past president, said many merchants are relieved that a large chain store isn't coming to 24th Street, but she wonders if Noe Valley "really needs another bank."

Circle's Kaselionis replies: Hers is not just another bank, but one with local ties and a "dedication to making business as convenient and friendly as possible."

Besides, though other banks may offer free coffee and cookies, how many have a KidZone stocked with coloring books and Legos, or a kennel with bowls of water and doggie treats?



Dolores Place Bed & Breakfast

25th Street between Dolores and Church
Private Entrance • Private Bathroom • Kitchenette

(415) 824-8728

A place for your visiting friends and relatives
that's close to you. Walk to 24th Street!

Visit us on the web at: www.doloresplace.com

Mel

Murphy

(415) 648-1200

mmurphy@mobrei.com

**Murphy
&
O'Brien**

Real Estate Investments, Inc.

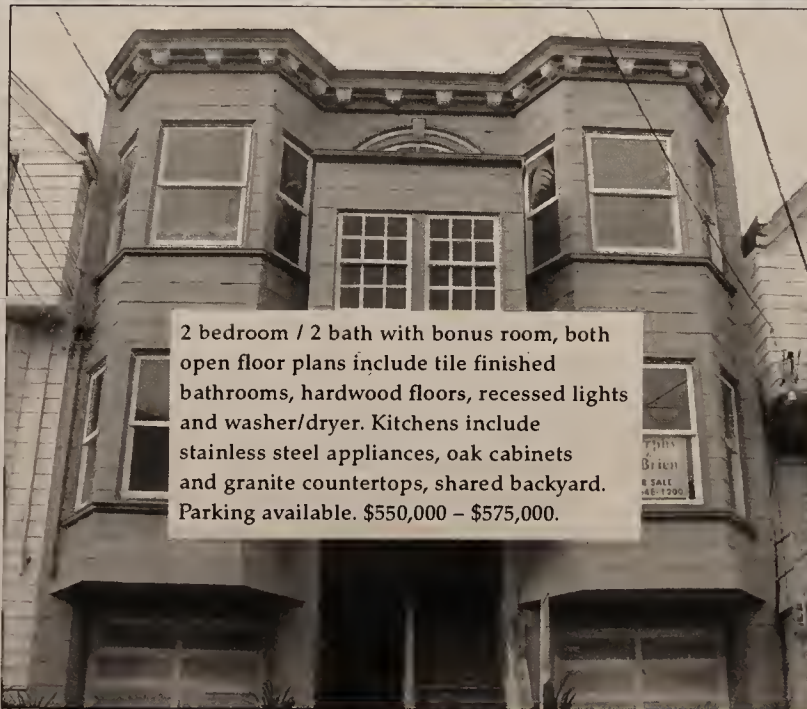
Luke

O'Brien

(415) 516-8488

lobrien@mobrei.com

2 TIC in the Heart of Noe Valley!



2 bedroom / 2 bath with bonus room, both open floor plans include tile finished bathrooms, hardwood floors, recessed lights and washer/dryer. Kitchens include stainless steel appliances, oak cabinets and granite countertops, shared backyard. Parking available. \$550,000 - \$575,000.

**COMING SOON: 1BD/1BA Luxury Condo
in the Valencia Corridor**

4153 24th St. • San Francisco, CA 94114

Ph. 415.648.1200 Fax 415.648.1213

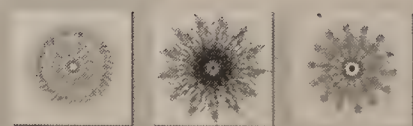
www.murphyobrienre.com

science . art . discovery

GalaxyGoo

a benefit event

supporting the educational projects of
GalaxyGoo



Fantastic Door Prizes

provided by Adobe, Bernie's, California Academy of Sciences, 24th Street Cheese Company, Cooks Boulevard, Cover to Cover, Ladybug Ladybug, True Sake, and more...

Bliss Bar
4026 24th St

5:30 - 9pm
Wednesday, December 16, 2009

get your tickets online (\$30) or at the door (\$35)

galaxygoo2009.eventbrite.com

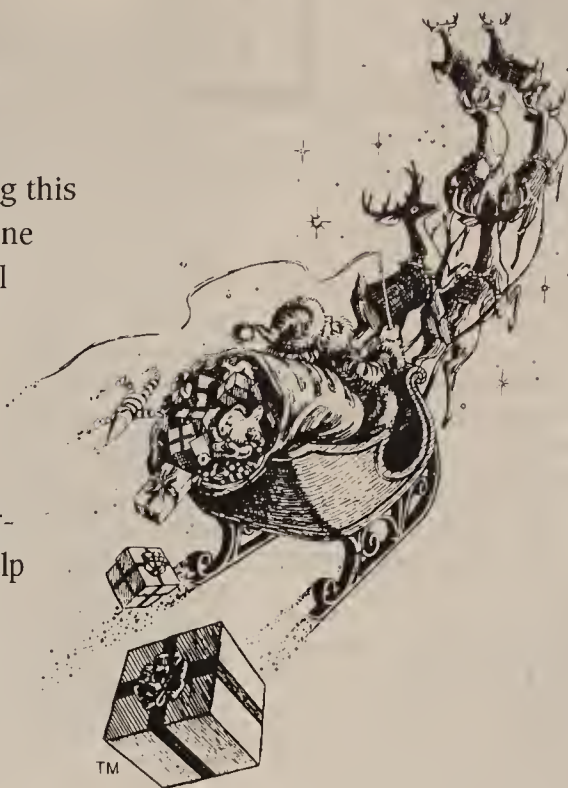
www.galaxygoo.org

Let us pack and ship your holiday gifts

Looking for help with packing and shipping this holiday season? Whether you're sending one special gift, or a sleigh full of goodies, Mail Boxes Etc.® can make sure your holiday packages are handled with care.

Each MBE Center provides expert packing services and complete shipping services. We can ship fragile, delicate, oversized or overweight items. We can even help you ship last-minute packages as late as December 22.

For expert packing and shipping this holiday season, depend on Mail Boxes Etc.®



MAIL BOXES ETC.

UPS & Federal Express Authorized Shipping Outlet

Mail Boxes Etc.

4104 24th Street (at Castro)

(415) 824-1070 • Fax (415) 824-1072

We're Open

Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Saturday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



NOETECA
CAFE • WINE BAR

MONDAY - SUNDAY
7 AM TO 10 PM

Bring this ad for one free
hand made cup-at-a-time
12 oz coffee during 12/09.

1551 DOLORES ST
AT VALLEY
415 • 824 • 5524
noetecacafe.com

27 Quick and Easy Tips to Sell Your Home Fast and for Top Dollar

San Francisco - Because your home may well be your largest asset, selling it is probably one of the most important decisions you will make in your life. And once you have made that decision, you'll want to sell your home for the highest price in the shortest time possible without compromising your sanity. Before you place your home on the market, here's a way to help you to be as prepared as possible.

To assist homesellers, a new industry report has just been released called "27 Valuable Tips That You Should Know to Get Your Home Sold Fast and for Top Dollar." It tackles the important issues you need to know to make your home competitive in today's tough, unpredictable marketplace.

Through these 27 tips you will discover how to protect and capitalize on your most important investment, reduce stress, be in control of your situation, and make the best profit possible.

In this report you'll discover how to avoid financial disappointment or worse, a financial disaster when selling your home. Using a common-sense approach, you will get the straight facts about what can make or break the sale of your home.

You owe it to yourself to learn how these important tips will give you the competitive edge to get your home sold fast and for the most amount of money.

Order your free report today. To hear a brief recorded message about how to order your FREE copy of this report, call 1-800-596-8310 and enter 1513. Call any time, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

This report is courtesy of Jane Ivory, Hill & Co. DRE #1058116. Not intended to solicit properties currently listed for sale.

Increase the Value of Your House

Your house is your investment. That's why you want experience when choosing your general contractor or engineer to make updates or repair your property.

M. Karkori Construction, Inc. has experience in home repairs and remodeling. We build gourmet kitchens, stylish bathrooms, rich hardwood floors, beautiful decks... and more!

Call us today and let us give you a free estimate!

T: 800 | 300.2845



**M. KARKORI
CONSTRUCTION, INC.**

Building from the Ground Up

CA Lic. No. 662832 A & B-1

Peggy Handler, MFT

Psychotherapy

Heal old wounds, past trauma, and abuse. Explore and work through stuck places, fears and anxieties that keep you from having the relationships and life that you want.

415 695-0166

Noe Valley Office

License MFC32077

Se Habla Español

The Cost of Living in Noe

Housing Market Less Anemic

By Corrie M. Anders

Homebuyers continued to find Noe Valley a desirable place to live, purchasing nine single-family properties during the month of October.

The total matched the number of sales in September and was two more than the seven residential transactions recorded in October of last year, according to data provided to the *Noe Valley Voice* by Zephyr Real Estate.

Randall Kostick, Zephyr's general sales manager, said the latest statistics reflect a "relatively healthy" real estate market in Noe Valley.

"I think it's good for buyers and okay for sellers," he said.

Except for one burst of spirited buying this summer that favored sellers, buyers have been in the driver's seat most of the year.

In October, buyers on average paid 2

percent more than the seller's asking price. But the windfall was less impressive than last October's, which garnered sellers an extra 4 percent.

Even with the overbid, the average sales price was nearly 23 percent less than one year ago. The Zephyr data showed that buyers paid an average \$1,126,000 per single-family home this October, contrasted with \$1,456,000 in October of last year. (The small number of homes sold may magnify these averages.)

Of the nine sales, six homes topped \$1 million. The most expensive was a "Victorian compound" in the 300 block of Clipper Street, between Noe and Castro streets. Sold in 62 days, the home's \$1,581,000 price tag included four bedrooms, four baths, parking for three cars, a one-bedroom cottage in the back, and 3,200 square feet of living space.

Buyers paid \$1,275,000 for a four-bedroom, 2.5-bath condominium in the 100 block of Duncan Street, between Dolores and Guerrero streets. The 2,200-square-foot unit, with one-car parking, was on the market for 90 days.

The Duncan Street property was among eight condo transactions reported in October, compared with five in September and five in October of last year. Buyers paid an average of \$839,000 for condos that sold for slightly below the asking price.

Noe Valley Home Sales*

Total Sales	No.	Low Price (\$)	High Price (\$)	Average Price (\$)	Avg. Days on Market	Sale Price As % of List Price
Single-family homes						
Oct. 2009	9	\$849,000	1,581,000	\$1,126,167	51	102%
Sept. 2009	9	\$780,000	\$1,795,000	\$1,163,222	73	98%
Oct. 2008	7	\$998,000	\$2,207,000	\$1,456,429	23	104%
Condominiums						
Oct. 2009	8	\$515,000	\$1,275,000	\$839,000	62	99%
Sept. 2009	5	\$455,000	\$969,000	\$722,900	83	98%
Oct. 2008	5	\$775,000	\$1,370,000	\$1,037,800	42	101%
2- to 4-unit buildings						
Oct. 2009	2	\$1,030,000	\$1,205,000	\$1,117,500	59	95%
Sept. 2009	4	\$688,020	\$1,571,000	\$1,179,755	57	101%
Oct. 2008	3	\$1,326,000	\$1,502,000	\$1,395,667	70	102%
5+-unit buildings						
Oct. 2009	0	—	—	—	—	—
Sept. 2009	0	—	—	—	—	—
Oct. 2008	0	—	—	—	—	—

* Sales include all Noe Valley home sales completed during the month. Noe Valley in this survey is defined as the area bordered by Grand View, 22nd, Guerrero, and 30th streets. The Voice thanks Zephyr Real Estate (www.zephyrsf.com) for supplying the sales data.

NVV 12/09

TILE SETTING

Ceramic Natural Stone Porcelain Glass

Old World Craftsmanship 21st Century Techniques

Serving San Francisco Neighborhoods for 20 Years

415 282 5406

CSL#888938 Licensed Bonded Insured www.ThosBuilders.com

A Snapshot of Noe Valley Rents**

Unit	No. in Sample	Range Nov. 2009	Average Nov. 2009	Average Oct. 2009	Average Nov. 2008
Studio	7	\$1,150 – \$1,600	\$1,307 / mo.	\$1,335 / mo.	\$1,439 / mo.
1-bdrm	32	\$1,040 – \$2,995	\$1,775 / mo.	\$1,736 / mo.	\$2,119 / mo.
2-bdrm	46	\$1,750 – \$5,200	\$2,625 / mo.	\$2,719 / mo.	\$3,085 / mo.
3-bdrm	21	\$2,795 – \$5,295	\$3,884 / mo.	\$3,989 / mo.	\$4,462 / mo.
4+-bdrm	6	\$4,150 – \$8,750	\$6,367 / mo.	\$3,622 / mo.	\$6,253 / mo.

** Survey based on a sample of 112 Noe Valley listings appearing on Craigslist.org from Nov. 2 to 16, 2009.

NVV 12/09

Find the loan that fits.

Mortgages Home Equity Lines Prequalification

Professional: Calls returned & questions answered
Experienced: 21 years in real estate;
 Dartmouth BA, Duke MBA
Local: Noe Valley Homeowner
Competitive: Access rates from all major lenders including Citibank, HSBC & JP Morgan Chase.



Christopher Baker

JVM Lending
415.307.5626

ChrisB@JVMLending.com

Ca Lic. #01308305

FINE BUILDERS
V&CO



REMODELING SPECIALISTS.

CABINETS AND BOOKCASES . . . DOG HOUSES TOO!
OVER 30 COMPLETED PROJECTS NOE VALLEY.

CERTIFIED GREEN PROFESSIONAL
LICENSED IN SAN FRANCISCO SINCE 1983
415.648.8779

www.vandcompany.net

Sue Bowie

Real Estate Broker Noe Valley Specialist

(415) 642-4000

suebowie@aol.com

www.SueBowie.com



SELECTING THE BEST REALTOR
IS THE MOST IMPORTANT DECISION YOU WILL MAKE
IN BUYING OR SELLING REAL ESTATE

Now, more than ever before, experience counts!

- Full time Licensed Real Estate Broker since 1986
- Top 1% Nationally and for San Francisco since 1988
- More than 1,000 Successfully Closed Transactions
- Noe Valley Homeowner for 30 years
- Owner and Manager of 5+ Unit Residential Income Properties
- Professional Background in Teaching, Research and Counseling (M.A., Ph.D., Psychology, M.P.H. Epidemiology, Public Health)

SPECIALIZING IN SINGLE FAMILY HOMES, CONDOMINIUMS AND TICs, INCOME PROPERTIES
AND 1031 EXCHANGES, TRUST, ESTATE AND PROBATES, RELOCATION AND REFERRALS.

Check out the latest in Noe Valley at
www.No ValleyOnline.com
a free interactive website for Noe Valley
DRE # 00872741



Prudential
California Realty

677 Portola Drive, San Francisco 94127
two blocks from Clipper and Portola

TIME TO PAINT?
Rely On The Professionals
Rich Quinn Premier Painting
18 Years Experience & Quality Service

- Free Estimates
- Interior & Exterior
- Basement Waterproofing
- Epoxy Floors-Garages, Driveways, etc.
- Commercial/Schools, Churches, etc.
- Historic Preservation Specialist
- Using "green" Sustainable Paints
- Power Washing
- Deck & Hardwood Floor Staining
- Spotless Cleanup
- References Available
- Member GGBA

**I Live in the City and
Paint the City!**

415-861-1621

www.richquinnpremierpainting.com

SCHWED
CONSTRUCTION

SERVING SAN FRANCISCO
FOR OVER 25 YEARS

HISTORIC RESTORATION
CUSTOM REMODELING
MAJOR RECONSTRUCTION
FOUNDATIONS — ADDITIONS
KITCHENS — BATHS

GENERAL CONTRACTOR

STATE Lic. No. 579875

WWW.SCHWED.NET

415 - 285 - 8207

MEMBER:



sfseamstress.com

Cut•Sew

Sewing for Interiors
free in home estimate



Slipcovers
Drapery
Pillows
Shades
Bedding
Table linens

415•271•0212

sew@sfseamstress.com

**HAPPY
NEW YEAR!**



**MONDAY - SUNDAY
7 AM TO 10 PM**

Bring this ad for one free
hand made cup-at-a-time
12 oz coffee during 01/10.

1551 DOLORES ST
AT VALLEY
415 • 824 • 5524
noetecacafe.com

• ATLAS LANDSCAPES •

Designers & Builders of extraordinary gardens
Under the masterful eye of David Graham



Please visit us: Atlands.com

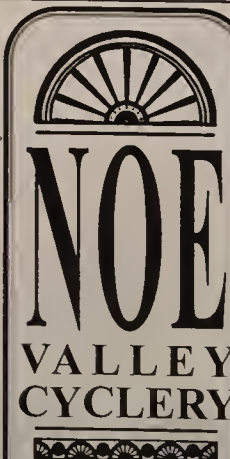
Phone 415-380-0604



Landscape & General Contractors
Ca. Lic. # 562324

DECKS
RETAINING WALLS
ARTISTIC FENCING
WATER FEATURES
SUPERB MASONRY
WORK
DRAINAGE ISSUES
PLANTING
LIGHTING
HOT TUB
INSTALLATION
SMALL SPACES A
SPECIALTY

CANNONDALE RALEIGH



LA FREE ELECTRIC

4193 24th Street
415-647-0886
Tues. — Sat. 11 — 6
Sun. 11 — 5
Since 1976

POLICE BEAT

MISSION POLICE DISTRICT

The Voice thanks San Francisco Patrol Special Officer Jane Warner and Mission Police Officer Lorraine Lombardo for providing this tally of incidents occurring in the part of Noe Valley within the Mission Police District. The log includes some but not all incidents occurring Oct. 16 to Nov. 15, 2009, in the area bordered by Grand View, 21st, Guerrero, and Cesar Chavez streets. Officers Lombardo and Warner both do walking foot patrols of 24th Street and environs. To reach Lombardo, call Mission Station at 558-5400. Contact Warner and the Patrol Special Police by emailing sfpdpatrol@earthlink.net or calling 559-9955.

Oct. 16, 9:30 p.m. (rprtd), 4000 block of Cesar Chavez, theft: Two potted plants valued at \$75 each were stolen from a residential front porch. No known suspects.

Oct. 18, 10:30 a.m. (rprtd), unit block of Fountain, attempted vehicle theft: A woman discovered her 2007 Honda Accord had been broken into. However, there was no sign of damage. The woman found wires to the car's alarm were cut. The suspect apparently tried unsuccessfully to hot-wire the car. Nothing was taken.

Oct. 19, 10 a.m. (rprtd), Alvarado and Douglass, theft from locked auto: A gray Acura legend was broken into while parked on a public street overnight. Taken was \$10 in change and a Bluetooth. The car had been rummaged through, and the glove-box door had been ripped from its hinge.

Oct. 20, 8:30 a.m. (rprtd), unit block of Jersey, theft from locked auto: A man parked

his GMC Sierra on the street overnight. In the morning, he noticed the passenger-side door had been jimmed open. Taken was a Pioneer radio valued at \$300 and a \$100 scientific calculator.

Oct. 20, 9 a.m. (rprtd), unit block of Chantanooga, theft from locked auto: A passenger-side window was smashed and items stolen from a 2007 Mini-Cooper while the car was parked overnight in front of its owner's residence. Data-processing equipment and a GPS system were taken.

Nov. 1, 5:15 p.m. (rprtd), Church and 23rd, vehicle vandalism: A man parked his 2001 BMW overnight on a public street. When he returned in the morning, he discovered large, deep scratches around the entire vehicle.

Nov. 2, 5:27 p.m., Church and 24th, battery: A woman reported to police that while riding on a J-line LRV she was suddenly approached by another woman who pushed her backwards. "I'm going to beat your [expletive] ass if you don't stop saying shit about me," the offending woman threatened as she swung a juice bottle toward the woman's face. Fearing for her safety, the woman walked backward trying to avoid a confrontation. She recognized the woman as the mother of one of her daughter's schoolmates. The suspect was held back by a male companion, and both of them got off the bus without further incident.

Nov. 4, 12:45 p.m. (rprtd), 4100 block of 20th, access card fraud: Bank of the West called a customer and informed him that there was unusual activity on his account. The customer discovered someone had fraudulently used his ATM card and there were four unauthorized transactions totaling over \$2,400. The victim did not know who had accessed his account and thought it could have been through his computer. The bank changed his account number, deactivated his debit card, and sent his claim to their investigation unit.

Nov. 5, 9:45 a.m. (rprtd), 22nd and Chantanooga, theft from locked auto: A black Audi A4 was broken into overnight while parked on a public street. The owner found the passenger-side door forced open and damaged. Taken was a Dell laptop, a Palm cell phone, and a pair of Ray-Ban sunglasses.

Nov. 9, 5:19 p.m. (rprtd), 4000 block of 26th, fraud by game or trick: A landscaper became concerned for an elderly man that he cuts lawn for, after the resident told him he thought he had been the victim of a fraud. The resident told his grass-cutter he had received numerous calls over a period of seven months from individuals claiming he had won millions of dollars in prizes and that all he had to do was send money to collect. The landscaper was shocked when the resident showed him receipts from Western Union for cash totaling about \$60,000 that he had sent the solicitors, located abroad in Jamaica and Canada. The landscaper urged the resident to call the police and report the incident. Officers arrived and filed a report of fraud, forwarding a copy to Adult Protective Services.

Reported Stolen Vehicles:

2008 gray Toyota Corolla from Homestead and 24th

2005 silver Honda Civic from Clipper and Castro

1990 gold Nissan Pathfinder SUV from Clipper and Noe

1999 blue four-door Honda Accord from 1100 block of Guerrero

INGLESIDE POLICE DISTRICT

This crime log for Upper Noe Valley—an area roughly bordered by Cesar Chavez, Guerrero, 30th, and Diamond streets—has been culled from newsletters produced by Capt. David Lazar, commander of Ingleside Police Station. The incidents are those reported Oct. 16 to Nov. 15, 2009. Please note that the log may not include all incidents occurring during the month. If you would like to receive Capt. Lazar's newsletter, send an email to SFPDInglesideStation@sfgov.org.

Oct. 16, 6:04 a.m., 400 block of 27th, vandalism: Officer Massey was sent to investigate a vandalism case. The victim told the officer that the known suspect broke the window of the house, then got into an argument with another resident. The suspect was arrested and cited to appear in court.

Oct. 16, 7 p.m., 1400 block of Noe, burglary: Officers Bernal and Stansbury responded to investigate a burglary case. The victim told the officers that he parked his car in the garage and closed the door. The next morning, he discovered the garage door open and numerous items missing.

Oct. 16, 3:15 p.m., 1700 block of Dolores, stolen auto.

Oct. 19, 5 p.m., 300 block of Duncan, residential burglary: Officer Morgante was sent to investigate a burglary. The victim told the officer that someone had broken into a coin box and stolen all of the money. There were no suspects or witnesses observed.

Oct. 23, 8:05 a.m., 300 block of 27th, attempted homicide: Officers Martinez and LaRocca were sent to investigate a man yelling for help. When the officers arrived, they were met with Officers Najarro, Smethurst, and Muro. The officers discovered that the victim was in the hospital, but able to be interviewed. The victim told the officers that while he was at home with the suspect, who was a friend of his, he became annoyed that the suspect's dog was out of control. The suspect then allegedly got angry, knocked the victim to the ground, and hit him on the head with an object. The suspect was arrested; the case is under investigation.

Oct. 25, 9:59 p.m., 29th and San Jose Ave., assault with knife: Officers Cole and Ma were sent to investigate a stabbing case. Officers Faye and Anderson responded as backup. They were told that after a security guard refused to allow a group of suspects into a local establishment because they appeared intoxicated, a suspect or suspects had stabbed the first person who walked outside. The stab wound was not life-threatening. Because there is surveillance evidence, the case is still under investigation.

Oct. 26, 5:50 a.m., 400 block of 28th, theft from auto: Officers Faye and Anderson were sent to investigate a theft case. The victim told

the officer that he was at home with his brother when his brother heard glass break outside. The victim's brother said that he looked out the window and saw a suspect inside his brother's car, which was parked across the street. The victim's brother yelled at the suspect and then ran after the suspect. The suspect got into a waiting car and fled. The loss was a GPS.

Oct. 27, 3:25 p.m., 1700 block of Church, theft: Sergeant Miller was sent to investigate a theft case at a store. The victim told the officer that three unknown suspects went to an outside rack of coats, took several and fled.

Oct. 29, 11:26 p.m., 200 block of Valley, recovered auto.

Nov. 6, 2:50 a.m., 1500 block of Noe, burglary arrest: Officers Gabriel and Khan were sent to investigate a burglary in progress. The officers were assisted by numerous Ingleside units. A partial license plate was broadcast of the suspect vehicle that was seen leaving the scene by the victim. Sergeant Lozada and Officers Rueca, Brown, Hom, and Sullivan located a vehicle with two occupants that matched the possible suspects' vehicle. The officers brought the witnesses to identify the suspects. All three witnesses positively identified both suspects, and they were arrested.

Nov. 8, 3:55 p.m., 300 block of 27th, recovered auto.

Nov. 9, 4 p.m., 300 block of 27th, theft from person: Officers Kabanuck and Leong were sent to investigate a theft case. The victim told the officers that she had gone out to run some errands. At one point, she stopped to eat lunch and discovered her wallet was missing. The victim retraced her steps but was unable to find her purse. The victim went home and discovered that someone had already used her credit cards.

Nov. 13, 7:05 p.m., Duncan at Diamond, robbery arrest: Officers Leong and Kabanuck were sent to investigate a robbery incident that had just occurred. The victim told the officers that she was walking along when two suspects came up to her and demanded her purse. When the victim did not react as fast as the suspects wanted, they beat her to the ground and took her property and fled in a car that was nearby. The victim had the presence of mind to get the license plate. The vehicle was registered out of Pacifica. The Pacifica police were notified and were able to locate the vehicle. Ingleside officers responded to Pacifica accompanied by the victim. Both suspects were positively identified, and the property was still in the car. The robbery suspects, one of whom was found to be on parole for robbery, were taken into custody.

Nov. 15, 11:43 p.m., 30th at San Jose Ave., residential burglary: Officers Khan and Jones were sent to investigate a burglary case. The victim told the officers that she was in her room, but had to leave to use the restroom. Because the restroom is only down the hall, she did not lock the room. When she returned, she discovered someone had stolen her checks.

Tale of Two Districts

Noe Valley is split between two San Francisco police jurisdictions: Mission Police District and Ingleside Police District. With Cesar Chavez Street as the dividing line, Mission police monitor the northern half of the neighborhood, while Ingleside police patrol the southern half. Both districts invite citizens to attend police community meetings, held monthly. Mission Police District holds meetings on the last Tuesday of the month, 6 p.m., at Mission Station, 630 Valencia Street near 17th Street. Ingleside's community meetings take place on the third Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m., at different locations in the district. This month, the meeting will be held Dec. 15 at Ingleside Station, 1 Sgt. John V. Young Lane off San Jose Avenue.

Police Contacts

Mission Station: 558-5400
Anonymous Tip Line: 552-4558
Capt. Stephen Tacchini: 558-5455
Stephen.Tacchini@sfgov.org

Ingleside Station: 404-4000
Anonymous Tip Line: 587-8984
Capt. David Lazar: 404-4000
David.Lazar@sfgov.org

To file a police report, go to any local station or file online at www.sfgov.org.

To report a crime in progress, call 911. Cell phone users can dial S.F. Dispatch directly: 415-553-8090.

ADDITION & GARAGE FOUNDATION RETROFIT RETAINING WALLS & SEISMIC

EXCAVATION & DRAINAGE

415.747.1000

Safe Engineering Construction

Engineering Design & Build with 20 years experience. Free estimate.

Lic #564297
Engineer Lic #43437

LE ZINC FRENCH BISTRO WINE BAR

LUNCH • TAPAS • DINNER • WEEKEND BRUNCH

BOOK YOUR HOLIDAY PARTIES NOW!

THURSDAY DECEMBER 31st
Celebrate the New Year with a special festive dinner in a romantic setting.



WINE FEST ON THURSDAYS!
Join us for dinner on Thursdays and receive a 30% discount on your bottle of wine.

4063 24TH STREET SAN FRANCISCO
T. 415 647 9400 www.lezinc.com

Born and Raised in Noe Valley



**Preserving the flavor
of the neighborhood**

4073 24th Street at Castro • San Francisco, CA 94114 • phone (415) 550.1405
www.noevalleybakery.com

CASTRO COMPUTER SERVICES

Sales • Service • Networking • Support



Convenient ON and OFF Site Service!

826-6678

email: ccs@CastroComputerServices.com

1500 Castro St. @ 25th St.

**FIT
WELL**

Chiropractic Sports Medicine

Active Release Techniques ®

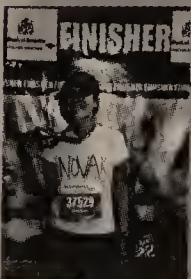
Massage Therapy

Complete Chiropractic Care

Graston Techniques

Progressive Rehabilitation

Pilates



Lisa Novak

You've changed my whole
perspective on what I can
achieve with my body.
Cheers, Lisa



Noe Valley's Premier Steak & Seafood House

BASSO'S

featuring quality meats and seafood

FOR LUNCH AND DINNER

Sunday Night
Bar Trivia
- Prizes

Join us for Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve Celebrations!

Saturday & Sunday Brunch

Napolitana style Pizza ■ Full Bar

Don't forget our EARLY BIRD SPECIALS

5:00 – 6:30 every evening!

includes Free cup of soup or dinner salad and
a non-alcoholic beverage with any entrée

(Early Bird Special not available on holidays. Dine in only
Not good with other offer or special events.)

* Senior Discount 15% *

Noe Valley Merchant Discount 10% *

(*not valid on alcoholic beverages)

3782 24th Street – at Church Street

(415) 285-3212 ■ (415) 285-3224

OPEN DAILY

11:30 a.m.–10:00 p.m. Monday through Friday

10:00 a.m.–10:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday

Late Night Menu until 1:30 a.m. Monday through Saturday

CARLIN'S GARDENS

Celebrating our 15th Year

Organic Garden Artistry

Beautiful

Sustainable

Unique
Designs



design
installation
maintenance
renovation
garden cleanups

Carlin Ellison 415-826-3127
carlinel@fastmail.fm
www.carlinsgardens.com

Creating ornamental, edible or combination gardens.
Grow your own herbs & vegetables – I can show you how!

SWATDEE Thai Cuisine

THANK YOU
NOE VALLEY



FOR YOUR
SUPPORT!

SPECIALIZING IN CURRY

Serving lunch and dinner • Ask about our daily specials • Take-out menu available
PHONE 415-824-8070 www.swatdeesf.com 415-285-5274 FAX

4166 24th Street BETWEEN CASTRO AND DIAMOND

Open for Lunch: Monday through Saturday 10:30 – 4

Dinner: Monday through Saturday 4 – 10 • Sunday 4:30 – 10

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL OUR NOE VALLEY
FRIENDS AND CUSTOMERS!**

wishing you and your family peace, happiness & prosperity

our 2009 sales

298 Upper Terrace	943 Church Street #1
552-554 Douglass Street	442 30th Street
566 Belvedere Street	1570 47th Avenue
1536 8th Avenue	418 Jersey Street
2680 Jackson Street	169 Nevada Street
1714 Duncan Street	276 Funston Avenue
4349 25th Street	3648 22nd Street
1487 Noe Street	1374 Sanchez Street
324 Laidley Street	124 5th Avenue
165 Randall Street	144 Valley Street
3753 Cesar Chavez Street	140-142 Laidley Street
1537 Sanchez Street	1443 Church Street
257 29th Street	3735 Cesar Chavez Street
682 Clarendon Avenue	119 Clipper Street
3850 Cesar Chavez Street	3938 17th Street
4302 19th Street	319 27th Street



The Droubi Team

A Household Name in Noe Valley Real Estate for 35 years.
Call us for a consultation.
We know Noe Valley Real Estate inside and out.



David Pennebaker
415.920.8202
david@droubiteam.com

BJ Droubi
415.920.8232
bj@droubiteam.com

Lamisse Droubi
415.920.8239
lamisse@droubiteam.com

droubi
TEAM

**COLDWELL
BANKER**

4157 24th Street
San Francisco, CA 94114
p 415.401.6300 f 415.401.6981

www.DroubiTeam.com

DECEMBER 2009

Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29: Sing along with Patrick Sosa at Phoenix Books' Tuesday morning STORY HOUR, for newborns to age 4. 10 am. 3957 24th. 821-3477.

Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29: Kadampa Buddhist Temple holds MEDITATION on Tuesdays. 7-8:45 pm. 3324 17th. 503-1187.

Dec. 1-Jan. 27: Kids and their caregivers are invited for TOT TIME at Upper Noe Rec Center. Tues. & Wed., 10-11:30 am. Oay & Sanchez. 695-5011.

Dec. 1-Jan. 15: Make an appointment to AUOITION on Jan. 16, in San Francisco, Oakland, or San Rafael, for the SF Boys Chorus; ages 5 to 8. 861-7464, ext. 319; auditions@sfbco.org.

Dec. 1-31 & Jan. 1-29: Noe Valley SENIOR CENTER serves hot lunches for people over 60, weekdays at 12:30 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez. Call to reserve a spot, 648-1030.

Dec. 1-31 & Jan. 1-30: OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS meets Mon.-Sat., 7 to 8 am. 1021 Sanchez. 282-2317.

Dec. 1-Jan. 19: Sign up for Spring 2010 classes at CITY COLLEGE; classes start Jan. 19. 50 Phelan Ave. www.ccsf.edu.

Dec. 2-18: Justin Quinn exhibits new ARTWORK on paper at Cain Schulte Gallery. Wed.-Fri., noon-5 pm. 714 Guerrero. 543-1550.

Dec. 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30: Eureka Valley Library's Wednesday BABY RHYME TIME, for 0-18 months, begins at 1:30 pm; a family story time for ages 2 to 5 starts at 3:30 pm. 1 Jose Sarria Court (16th & Market). 355-5616.

Dec. 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31: Infants and crawlers are invited to sing and play in English and Spanish at BILINGUAL BABY PLAY at Mission Library. 10:10 am. 300 Bartlett. 355-2800.

Dec. 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30: The Upper Noe SENIORS group meets on Wednesdays for socializing and bingo. Noon-3:30 pm. Upper Noe Rec Center, Oay & Sanchez. 970-8061 or 695-5011.

Dec. 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31: Pal Mel teaches PAL TIME, a class for tots 18 months to 3 years. 8:30 am, MoBu Dance Studio, 1605 Church. 550-PALS; www.pal-ersize.com.

Dec. 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31: A Thursday STROLLER WALK starts at Holey Bagel at 11 am. 3872 24th. www.noestrolls.com.

Dec. 3-Jan. 2: City Arts hosts a GROUP ART SHOW with work priced \$200 or less. Reception Dec. 4, 7-10 pm. 828 Valencia. 970-9900; www.cityartgallery.org.

Dec. 4 & 5: The Winter Vocal and ORCHESTRAL CONCERT by the School of the Arts includes Faure's *Cantique de Jean Racine* and Rachmaninov's *Bogoroditse Devo*. 7:30 pm. 555 Portola. 350-5697.

Dec. 4-23: Creativity Explored hosts its annual HOLIDAY ART SALE. Opening Dec. 4, 6-9 pm & Dec. 5, 1-6 pm; Mon.-Wed. & Fri., 10 am-3 pm; Thurs., 10 am-7 pm; Sat., 1-6 pm. 3245 16th. 863-2108; www.creativityexplored.org.

Dec. 4-29: CLARE tells tales for kids at Cover to Cover's story hour. Fridays, 10:30 am. 1307 Castro. 282-8080.

Dec. 4-29: Yell "BINGO!" at St. Paul's Friday nights at 7 pm (doors open at 5 pm). Parish Hall, 221 Valley. 648-7538

Dec. 5: The annual NOEL STROLL includes photos with Santa (11 am-2 pm and 4-8 pm) at Zephyr Real Estate, 4040 24th St.; and a hayride from Walgreen's on Castro. 4:30-7:30 pm. 509-6261.

Dec. 5: British acoustic guitarist ADRIAN LEGG performs at the Noe Valley Music Series. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez. Advance tickets Phoenix Books, 3957 24th, 821-3477; or 454-5238; www.noevalleymusicseries.com.

Dec. 5 & 6: Friends of the Urban Forest offers live potted CHRISTMAS TREES for sale from 10 am to 2 pm at City Hall Plaza. 561-6890, ext. 103, or order online at www.stenvironment.com/greenchristmas.

Dec. 5 & 6: The SF CHORAL SOCIETY performs J.S. Bach's *Magnificat* and the *Christmas Oratorio*. Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 7:30 pm. St. Paul's Church, Church & Valley. 648-7538; www.stpaulst.org.

Dec. 5 & Jan. 2: Precita Eyes Mural Arts hosts a MURAL WALK the first Saturday of the month. Meet at 11 am at the 16th Street

BART plaza near the Wells Fargo Bank sign. 285-2287; www.precitaeyes.org.

Dec. 5-Jan. 3: ArtZone 461 Gallery exhibits "Six Centuries of PRINTMAKING" and figurative paintings and drawings. Reception Dec. 5, 5-8 pm; Wed.-Sat., noon-6 pm. 461 Valencia. 441-8680; www.artzone461.com.

Dec. 5, 12, & 19: The Noe Valley FARMERS' MARKET features fresh produce and music by a variety of performers, including Mick Shaffer and Failure to Disperse (Dec. 5), Jude and Mission Hill (Dec. 12), and the Swinging Guitars and Mississippi Mike (Dec. 19). Saturdays, 8 am-1 pm. 24th & Vicksburg. 248-1332; www.noevalleyfarmersmarket.com.

Dec. 5-Jan. 30: The SUNNYSIDE CONSERVATORY reopens after a year-long retrofit; docents will give tours and historical talks. 11 am-2 pm. 236 Monterey. 334-3601; www.sunnysideconservatory.org.

Dec. 6: Animal Care and Control offers FREE DOG MICROCHIPPING for city residents. 10 am-1 pm. 1200 15th. 554-6364.

Dec. 6: Friends of Dolores Park hosts a free PUPPET SHOW, "Holiday Treats," featuring the Nick Barone puppets. 11 am. www.friendsofdolorespark.org.

Dec. 6: Sharon Art Studio in Golden Gate Park holds its POTTERY and Craft Sale. 11 am-5 pm. Sharon Meadow. 753-7005.

Dec. 6: Chef Thomas Keller introduces his RECIPES in *Ad Hoc at Home*. 3:30 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; www.omnivorebooks.com.

Dec. 6: San Francisco Choral Artists vocal group performs CHAMBER MUSIC at the Noe Valley Ministry. 4 pm. 1021 Sanchez. 648-5236; www.nvcm.org.

Dec. 6 & 13: SANTA and friends visit the Great Hall of the SF Zoo for brunch from 11 am to 1 pm. 753-7236.

Dec. 6, 13 & 20: The Bliss Bar Sunday Afternoon JAZZ SERIES features saxophonist Noel Jewkes, guitarist Josh Workman, bassist Michael Zisman, and vocalist Marky Quayle (Dec. 6); singer Kim Nalley

(Dec. 13); and the Zanza Trio performing Brazilian music (Dec. 20). 3:30-6:30 pm. 4026 24th. 826-6200; www.blissbarsf.com.

Dec. 6, 13 & 20: Learn about MISSION DOLORES at a City Guides walk on Sundays, 11 am. Meet at the gold fire hydrant at 20th and Church. 557-4266; www.sfcityguides.org.

Dec. 6, 13, 20 & 27: The Amazing Bubble Man performs *The Greatest BUBBLE SHOW on Earth* at the Marsh. 11 am; Dec. 6, 1 pm. 1062 Valencia. 271-3256; www.themarsh.org.

Dec. 6-29: City Guide Dan Sullivan leads "Castro: Tales of the Village," a WALKING TOUR of the Castro, every Tuesday and Sunday. Meet at 11 am at Harvey Milk Plaza (Castro & Market) under the rainbow flag. 557-4266; www.sfcityguides.org.

Dec. 6 & 20; Jan. 3 & 17: SF City Guides leads free WALKING TOURS of Noe Valley on first and third Sundays. 1-3 pm. Meet at 451 Jersey. 557-4266; www.sfcityguides.org.

Dec. 6 & Jan. 3: Rocket DOG RESCUE has dogs who need homes. Noon-4 pm. Zephyr Real Estate, 4040 24th. 642-4786.

Dec. 7: Poets Peter Weltner and Bill Mayer read at ODD MONDAYS at the Noe Valley Ministry. 7:30 pm; no-host dinner Haystack Pizza, 6 pm (RSVP jlsender@webtv.net). 1021 Sanchez. 282-2317.

Dec. 7-Jan. 25: Chris Sequeira offers a free Monday Introductory QIGONG/TAI CHI session at the Glen Park baseball field, Elk & Chenery, at 10:30 am, and at the Noe Valley Ministry at 6 pm. 1021 Sanchez. 773-8185; livingtaichiprinciples.blogspot.com.

Dec. 8: The RADAR READING at the Main Library, hosted by Michelle Tea, features Eric O'rooker, Daphne Gottlieb, and Zoe Kroll. 6-7:30 pm. 100 Larkin. 557-4400; www.sfcpl.org.

Dec. 8: SCRAP hosts a workshop, "Reusing Time: Make Gift Bags from Last Year's Calendars," at the Noe Valley Library. 6:30-8 pm. Register at 355-5707.

Dec. 8: TCHO hosts a discussion of premium CHOCOLATE. 7-9 pm. 18 Reasons, 593 Guerrero. info@18Reasons.org

Dec. 8: Darrell Van Citters signs *MR. MAGOO's Christmas Carol* at the Cartoon Art Museum. 7:30-9 pm. 655 Minna. CARTOON; www.cartoonart.org.

Dec. 9: SCOTT WIENER, candidate for District 8 supervisor, hosts a holiday party at bar/restaurant Lookout (kids welcome) from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. Noe and Market. RSVP to info@scott2010.com.

Dec. 9: Jacqueline Mallorca discusses her cookbook, *The GLUTEN-FREE ITALIAN*. 6-7 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. www.omnivorebooks.com.

Dec. 9: The Noe Valley Ministry offers an LABYRINTH walk. 6:30 pm. 1021 Sanchez. 282-2317; www.noevalleyministry.org

Dec. 10: Openhouse Outreach invites LGBT SENIORS to second-Thursday meetings at 30th Street Senior Center. 10 am. 225 30th. 296-8995.

Dec. 10: The Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association holds its HOLIDAY BUFFET. 6:30-8:30 pm. Bank of America, 4098 24th. 641-8687.

Dec. 10: The Lily Cai Dance Company and Melody of CHINA perform contemporary works. 8 pm. Cowell Theater at Fort Mason. 345-7575; www.lilycaidance.org or www.melodyofchina.org

Dec. 11: The HOLIDAY FAIR at the SF Center for the Book includes books, cards, and handmade papers. 5:30-8:30 pm. 300 De Haro. 565-0545, ext. 16; www.sfcfb.org.

Dec. 11: Literary Death Match features best and worst HOLIDAY STORIES by Oerek Powazek, Lynka Adams, Beth Spotswood, and Elissa Bassist. 6:30-9 pm. Elbo Room, 647 Valencia. 552-7788; www.elbo.com.

Dec. 11: Ben Brussell's "Klezmania!" performs CHANUKAH sing-alongs, klezmer, and Yiddish and Israeli folk songs. 8 pm. Old First Concerts, 1751 Sacramento. 474-1608.

Dec. 12: LAOYBUG GARDENERS invite you to help weed and tend the park at Noe Valley Rec Center. 9 am. Oay & Sanchez. 695-5011. E-mail jliron@aol.com.

A Special Screening of

NO IMPACT MAN

A Fundraiser For
NOE VALLEY MINISTRY

On December 18th, Noe Valley Ministry and Center for Community will host a pre DVD release screening of the *No Impact Man* documentary: how one family erased their carbon footprint.

All welcome at Noe Valley Ministry
1021 Sanchez St. at 23rd St.
Screening time 7:00 p.m.
\$5-10 sliding scale
415-282-2317



EVENTS DEC 2009 - JAN 2010 ~ OMNIVORE BOOKS

WED DEC 2 WAI HON CHU • 6:00-7:00 P.M. • FREE
The Dumpling: A Seasonal Guide. Author Wai Hon Chu will discuss all things dumplings!

SAT DEC 5 JAMES PETERSON • 1:00-2:00 P.M. • FREE
Baking. The bible of baking, Peterson is himself an encyclopedia of knowledge. Bring your questions for this master recipe-tester.
IVY MANNING • 3:00-4:00 P.M. • FREE
The Adaptable Feast: Satisfying Meals for the Vegetarians, Vegans, and Omnivores at Your Table. Author Ivy Manning has some great ideas about satisfying everyone at the table!

SUN DEC 6 THOMAS KELLER • 3:30 P.M. • FREE
Ad Hoc at Home. Famed chef Thomas Keller will sign copies (purchased here!) of his new cookbook. Meet a living legend!

WED DEC 9 JACKIE MALLORCA • 6:00-7:00 P.M. • FREE
The Gluten-Free Italian. Author Jackie Mallorca will give a talk on allergy-free Italian cooking.

SUN DEC 13 BAKING IN AMERICA • 3:00-4:00 P.M. • FREE
Pastry historian and cookbook author Greg Parent will give a lively talk on the history of American dessert, including poundcake and Boston Cream Pie.

SAT JAN 16 RIMA BARKETT & CLAUDIA PRUETT • 3:00-4:00 P.M. • FREE • *Cooking Dinner: Simple Italian Family Recipes Everyone Can Make*. Learn how to simplify Italian dinners without dumbing them down.

ARI WEINZWEIG • 6:00-7:00 P.M. • FREE
Zingerman's Guide to Better Bacon. Ari Weinzwieg of the famed Zingerman's in Ann Arbor will ham it up with us.

OMNIVORE BOOKS ON FOOD

3885A CESAR CHAVEZ STREET (AT CHURCH ST.) • SAN FRANCISCO, CA
PHONE: 415.282.4712 • OMNIVOREBOOKS.COM

JANUARY 2010

Dec. 12: Forbeadin's HOLIDAY SALE and Trunk Show features 25% off gemstones. 11 am-5 pm. 1195 Church. 641-1414, www.forbeadin.com.

Dec. 12: The Older Women's League hosts a HOLIDAY PARTY from noon to 2 pm. Flood Building, 870 N. Market, room 838. 989-4422; www.owlsf.com.

Dec. 12: Recess Urban Recreation hosts a KID STUFF SWAP from 12:30 to 1 pm; drop off before noon. 470 Carolina. 701-7529; www.recessurbanrecreation.com.

Dec. 12: The SILENT FILM Festival's winter event features an appearance by Buster Keaton's granddaughter, and screenings of *Chang: a Drama of the Wilderness*, *Jacuse*, *Sherlock Jr.*, and *West of Zanzibar*. 11:30 am-9:15 pm. Castro Theatre, 429 Castro. 621-6120; www.castrotheatre.com.

Dec. 12: BUTTERFEST '09 at 18 Reasons features demonstrations, tastings, and a potluck. 6-8 pm. 593 Guerrero. RSVP to info@18Reasons.org.

Dec. 12: "Hot Glass—Cold Beer," the annual HOLIDAY SALE at Public Glass, spotlights the work of Rob Tribble. 6-10 pm. 1750 Armstrong. 671-4916; www.publicglass.org.

Dec. 12: The SF Bike Coalition hosts its sixth annual CHRISTMAS LIGHTS ride. Meet at 6:30 pm at the Panhandle Statue, Fell and Baker. 431-BIKE; www.sfbike.org.

Dec. 12: WRITERS With Drinks hosts readings by Dan Fante, Joshua Mohr, Mark Coggins, Seanan McGuire, and Mollena Williams, to benefit the Center for Sex and Culture. 7:30 pm. Make-Out Room, 3225 22nd. www.writerswithdrinks.com.

Dec. 12 & 13: Indie craft fair BAZAAR BIZARRE San Francisco features over 100 juried artisans. Noon-6 pm. SF County Fair Building in Golden Gate Park. www.bazaarbizarre.org.

Dec. 12-18: Sign up for Noe Valley REC CENTER winter programs, held Jan. 2-Feb. 26, including cooking, crochet, tot playgroups, and sports. Dec. 12, 10 am-3 pm; Dec. 14-18, 4-7 pm. Day & Sanchez. 695-5011; www.noevalleyrecenter.com.

Dec. 12 & Jan. 9: Local doulas and MIDWIVES gather on second Saturdays at Natural Resources. 2-4 pm. 1367 Valencia. 550-2611; www.naturalresources-sf.com.

Dec. 12-Jan. 27: Mission resident Jamaica Dyer signs her new graphic novel, *Dee's Siren Song*, at MISSION CDMICS & Art. Reception Dec. 18, 7 pm, Tues.-Sun., noon-8 pm. 3520 20th, suite B. www.missioncomicsandart.com.

Dec. 13: The Community Music Center HOLIDAY PARTY features Christmas Carols and a performance of *Amahl and the Night Visitors* by the Ina Chalis Opera Ensemble. 11:30 am. 544 Capp. 647-6015; www.scmcc.org.

Dec. 13: Feminist POET Nellie Wong reports on her trip to Australia at the Freedom Socialist Party meeting. 1 pm. New Valencia Hall, 625 Larkin. 864-1278; www.radicalwomen.org.

Dec. 13: PASTRY HISTORIAN Greg Patent, author of *Baking in America*, explains the lineage of desserts. 3-4 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; www.omnivorebooks.com.

Dec. 13 & Jan. 10: PFLAG holds its monthly meeting on the second Sunday of the month, from 2 to 4 pm. St. Francis Lutheran Church, 152 Church. 921-8850; www.pflag.org.

Dec. 14: The Monthly RUMPUS features authors Andrew Leland, James Nestor, Michelle Gagnon, Robert Mailer Anderson, and Andrew Sean Greer, music by Michael Mullen of the Size Queens, comedy by W Kamau Bell, and a performance by Dan Wolf from the Traveling Jewish Theater. 7 pm. Makeout Room, 3229 22nd. 647-2888.

Dec. 15: A film about the YOUNG @ HEART senior choir screens at the Main Library. 5:30-7:30 pm. 100 Larkin. 557-4400; www.sfppl.org.

Dec. 16: GALAXYGOO, a Noe-based non profit dedicated to science literacy, hosts a gathering and fundraiser at Bliss Bar to support educational projects. 5:30 pm. 4026 24th. 826-6200; www.galaxygoo.org.

Dec. 16 & Jan. 20: The Noe Valley BOOK Discussion Group meets on third Wednesdays, from 7 to 8:30 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; www.sfppl.org.

Dec. 17: The SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING Winter Solstice Party features demonstrations of jigs, reels, and strathspeys, with Scottish music. 7:45 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez. 333-9372; www.scottishdancers.org.

Dec. 19: Ehren Reed offers HOMEMADE GIFT ideas for all ages. 2-4 pm. Paxton Gate, 824 Valencia. www.PaxtonGate.com.

Dec. 19: The Glen Park Library hosts a GINGERBREAD CRAFT class for ages 5 and older. 2825 Diamond. 355-2858.

Dec. 19: LAVAY SMITH and Her Red Hot Skillet Lickers performs at Café du Nord. 9 pm. 2170 Market/ 861-5016.

Dec. 19-25: ST. ANTHONY'S invites you to drop off bulk food, canned goods, and clean clothing. Mon.-Fri., 8 am-6 pm; Sat. & Sun., 9 am-3 pm. 150 Golden Gate. 241-2600; www.stanthonyst.org.

Dec. 20: Bird & Beckett hosts a LUTE/ VOCAL concert. 4:30-6:30 pm. 653 Chenery. 586-3733; www.bird-beckett.com.

Dec. 20: Pianist Paul Scheffert will be accompanied by sax man R.C. Howell and bassist Ron Belcher at JAZZ VESPER at the Noe Valley Ministry. 6-7 pm. 1021 Sanchez. 282-2317; www.noevalleyministry.org.

Dec. 21: Cooks Boulevard offers a class, "HOLIDAY CDMFDRT FOODS," at Katherine Michaels School. 6:15 pm. 1335 Guerrero. 647-2665; www.cooksboulevard.com.

Dec. 21: Filmmaker Chi Jang Yin screens *Lighthouse* and other short films, at DDD MONDAYS at the Noe Valley Ministry. 7:30 pm; no-host dinner Haystack Pizza, 6 pm (RSVP jlsender@webtv.net). 1021 Sanchez. 282-2317.

Dec. 22: MAGIC DAN performs a show for ages 3 and older. 10:30 pm. Eureka Valley Library, 1 Jose Sarria Court (16th & Market). 355-5616.

Dec. 24-27: The 17th annual Kung Pao KDSHER CDMEDY show features Jonathan Katz, Brian Malow, Hilary Schwartz, and Lisa Geduldig. 6 & 9:30 pm; Dec. 27, 5 & 8:30 pm. New Asia Restaurant, 772 Pacific.

275-9005; www.koshercomedy.com.

Dec. 26 & Jan. 30: Bring usable items, food, and talents to the Really REALLY FREE MARKET the last Saturday of the month, noon. Dolores Park.

Jan. 6: The Bird & Beckett BOOK CLUB features *Bliss* by Peter Carey. 7-9 pm. 653 Chenery. 586-3733; www.bird-beckett.com.

Jan. 7: Dr. Paul Linde describes his latest book, *Danger to Self: On the Front Line with an ER Psychiatrist*. 7:30 pm. Books Inc., 2275 Market. 867-6777.

Jan. 9: Recess Urban Recreation offers a class, "Infant, Child, and ADULT CPR." 9-11 am. 470 Carolina. 701-7529; www.recessurbanrecreation.com.

Jan. 9: WRITERS With Drinks hosts a reading to benefit the Center for Sex and Culture. 7:30 pm. Make-Out Room, 3225 22nd. www.writerswithdrinks.com.

Jan. 14: An introductory session of SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING teaches jigs and reels; no partner needed, but wear flat non-slip shoes. 8-10 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez. 333-9372; www.scottishdancers.org.

Jan. 16: Friends of Billy Goat Hill hosts a TREE PLANTING on the hill from 9 am to noon. 30th & Laidley. www.friendsofbillygoathill.blogspot.com.

Jan. 16: Rima Barkett and Claudia Pruett introduce *Cooking Dinner: Simple ITALIAN Family Recipes Everyone Can Make*. 3-4 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. www.omnivorebooks.com.

Jan. 16: Ari Weinzwieg of Zingerman's Restaurant in Ann Arbor discusses *Zingerman's Guide to Better BACON*. 6-7 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; www.omnivorebooks.com.

Jan. 21-March 6: DAN HOYLE brings *The Real Americans*, his new solo show about America's culture wars, to the Marsh. Thurs. & Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 5 pm. 1062 Valencia. www.themarsh.org.

Jan. 23: The USF Community Counseling Center offers a talk by Dr. Virginia

Goodwind, *Everything You Wanted to Know About ADHD*. Noon. 36 Monterey 239-9300; www.usfca.edu/familycenter

Jan. 24: A benefit for Music on the Hill CHAMBER MUSIC series features the works of Shostakovich. 7 pm. St. Aidan's Church, 101 Goldmine. 820-1429; www.musiconthehill.org.

Jan. 26: Ecologist Dr. Andrew Gunther gives a free lecture on CLIMATE CHANGE at Alvarado School. 6 pm. 625 Douglass. 695-5695; www.alvaradoschool.net.

Jan. 26: Woody LaBounty tells the story of CARVILLE-by-the-Sea, "San Francisco's Streetcar Suburb," at the San Francisco History Association. 8 pm. St. Philip's Church, 725 Diamond. 750-9986; www.sanfranciscohistory.org.

Jan. 27: The Noe Valley MERCHANTS and Professionals Association meets on the last Wednesday of the month. 9 am. Bank of America, 4098 24th. Robert T. Roddick, 641-8687.

Jan. 28: The Upper Noe Neighbors monthly meeting begins at 7:30 pm at a Noe Valley Rec Center. Day & Sanchez. Confirm vickimrosen@gmail.com.

Jan. 28: Camilla Fox discusses the CDY-OTE PROJECT at the Randall Museum's Natural History Series. 7:30 pm. 199 Museum. 554-9600; www.randallmuseum.org.

Jan. 30-Feb. 7: The Marsh Youth Theater's TEEN TRUPE performs *The Wave*, a musical by Ron Jones based on a high school history class experiment in fascism. 1062 Valencia. 271-3256; www.themarsh.org.

A NEW YEAR IS UPON US!

The next *Noe Valley Voice* will be the February 2010 issue, appearing on the streets of Noe Valley the first week of February. Email Calendar items by **Jan. 15** to calendar@noevalleyvoice.com or write us at Calendar, *Noe Valley Voice*, 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Note: Noe Valley events may receive priority. Thank you.

KPFA

Crafts & Music Fair
December 12th & 13th
Original Crafts & Art

Live Music
Festive Food

FREE SHUTTLES @
Civic Center BART Station
@ 8th & Market MUNI Bus
Stop, & SF Caltrain Station



10 am ~ 6 pm
Concourse Exhibition Center
8th & Brannan Streets

www.kpfa.org/craftsfair • 510-847-6767 ext. 646



EAST BAY EXPRESS



communityworks



pasta pomodoro

1/2 OFF
BOTTLES OF WINE
{wednesdays}

With the purchase of one adult entrée,
promotion is for bottles only. Dine in only.
May not be combined with any other offer,
discount or promotion.

NOE VALLEY

4000 24th Street | San Francisco, CA 94114

415-920-9904 | pastapomodoro.com

ON SALE

...at The Good Life Grocery

CLOVER STORNETTA
Clover Dairy Organic Milk
84 oz. -reg 4.15

\$3.59

Organic Whipping Cream
16 oz. -reg 3.59

\$2.99

Organic Butter
16 oz. -reg 5.99

\$4.99

Sour Cream
regular or lite
16 oz. -reg 2.99

\$2.49

Butter
sweet or salted
18 oz. -reg 3.19

2/\$5

Egg Nog
regular or lite
32 oz. -reg 2.99

\$2.49

Whipping Cream
16 oz. -reg 2.95

\$2.49

Organic Egg Nog
32 oz. -reg 4.59

\$3.99

Capricorn Coffee
Dark French Roast Coffee
16 oz. -reg 8.49

\$5.99

Kaltbach Gruyere
cave aged

\$15.99 lb.

Black Creek
Extra Sharp Cheddar
7 oz. -3 year old

\$3.99

Imported Fromager d'Affinois
-reg 18.99 lb.

\$12.99 lb.

with Herbs

\$13.99 lb.



R.W. Knudsen
Sparkling Juices
all flavors
750 ml -reg 4.29 +CRV

2/\$5

Dececco Pasta
all varieties
16 oz. -reg 2.99

\$1.99

Extra Virgin Olive Oil
33.9 oz. -reg 13.99

\$7.99



Mary's Gone Crackers
all varieties
8.5 oz. -reg 4.89

\$2.99

Local - Fresh Cooked
Dungeness Crabs
cleaned & cracked free

\$5.99 lb.

USDA Choice Standing Rib Roast
the "king" of roasts
-reg 11.99 lb.

\$8.99 lb.

Toys for Tots

Please donate a new unwrapped toy for the Toys for Tots program sponsored by the San Francisco Fire Dept. Donation Bins at your favorite Good Life Store



For Peace & Justice On Earth
Merry Christmas
Happy Hanukkah
from the staff of
Good Life Grocery

Just Desserts
6" Filled Cakes
all varieties
-reg 12.99

\$10.99

Goldy's Dips
7 oz. -all varieties

\$3.99

Store Hours:
8:00 am - 9:00 pm
Every Day!

The **GOOD LIFE GROCERY**



Sale Prices effective
December 1 - 20, 2009

448 Cortland Avenue • Bernal Heights • San Francisco • 94110



Bernal Heights

\$1,125,000

BRAND NEW CONSTRUCTION! Perfect Noe Valley alternative - new construction in Noe doesn't exist at this price! Exquisite view home offers luxurious city living on 5 levels! Detached on 3 sides and flooded with natural light, it offers the perfect blend of form and function - ideal for entertaining. Dramatic architecture, multiple outdoor spaces, extraordinary design finishes and superb attention to detail make this home a true showcase. 3 bedrooms, 2 full and 2 half baths + bonus media room, spacious living room with soaring ceilings, eat-in chef's kitchen, spacious garage and much, much more. Just a short walk to Cortland shops and cafes.

www.200putnam.com

Shannon Molloy 415.701.2630



Eureka Valley

\$949,000

High ceilings, classic details, and modern updates define this spacious renovated flat. The stylish kitchen with stainless appliances opens to the dining room. Shared garden and 2 car parking.

Rafael Acevedo | Joe Marko 415.738.7246



Noe Valley

\$779,000

Light filled top floor Edwardian condominium in building that is fully detached on three sides. The unit features 2 BR+ dining room, which could serve as a third BR, as well as one bath. The unit was renovated and updated in the past five years.

Brendon DeSimone 415.738.7226

Levi Plaza
415.738.7000

Van Ness
415.565.0500



PARAGON
REAL ESTATE GROUP

www.paragon-re.com

SHORT TAKES

How Does Your Garden Grow?

The residents group Friends of Noe Valley is gathering submissions for next summer's garden tour, and proud gardeners have until Sunday, Feb. 28, to enter their patch of green for consideration.

The fourth Noe Valley Garden Tour is scheduled to take place Saturday, June 12, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Six to eight gardens will be selected from nominations made by individuals and landscaping firms. Gardens can be of any theme, but they must have private access, preferably not through a private home. Volunteers will stand at the garden's entrance to take and sell tickets, answer questions, and monitor access, and homeowners are encouraged (but not required) to be on hand to talk to visitors.

Proceeds from the tour go toward neighborhood beautification projects. Past contributions helped restore the garden at the Noe Valley-Sally Brunn Library and paid for some of the tree and flower plantings along the 24th Street business corridor. Proposals for future beautification projects are also due Feb. 28.

To submit a garden or a beautification idea, contact Richard May at 415-602-4445. Gardens and projects must be within the boundaries of Noe Valley: Grand View/Diamond Heights Boulevard on the west, 30th Street on the south, Guerrero Street on the east, and 21st Street on the north. Nominated gardens will be viewed during March and final selections made by March 31.

Climate Change: The Science

Alvarado Elementary School, 625 Douglass Street, invites its Noe Valley neighbors to a free 90-minute lecture/discussion about the science of climate change, given by environmental scientist Andrew Gunther on Tuesday, Jan. 26, at 6 p.m. A question-and-answer session will follow the talk.

Gunther is the executive director of the Center for Ecosystem Management and Restoration, a nonprofit started by scientists committed to bridging the gap between environmental research and policy. He has managed a program monitoring toxic contaminants in the San Francisco estuary and is working to restore steelhead trout to Bay Area waters. From 1991 to 2002, he worked as assistant chief scientist for the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Restoration Program in the Gulf of Alaska.

Snacks and drinks will be provided. The lecture will take place in the school's cafeteria, on 22nd Street between Douglass and Eureka streets. For information, call the school at 415-695-5695.

Register for Winter Fun

Dec. 12 is the first day to sign up for winter programs starting Jan. 2 at the Noe Valley Recreation Center—also known as Upper Noe Rec Center and Day Street Park. More than 20 courses will serve everyone from tots to seniors.

Adult classes include making greeting cards on Fridays and Sundays and acting with a theater group Sunday mornings or Monday nights. There are half a dozen ways to exercise, including stretching and tai chi on Fridays and Wednesdays, respectively. Women can play soccer indoors by joining the futsal team Monday nights. The Senior Social Club, which likes to organize field trips, meets at the rec center on Wednesdays.

Offerings for the preschool set include Tot Gym, Tot Picasso, movement classes, and sports. Families can gather for arts

and crafts Saturday and Sunday mornings or play board games Sunday afternoons.

For pre-teens, there are theater, cooking classes, and art classes ranging from maskmaking to crochet. The center is home to several Junior Warriors basketball teams, and directors Tom and Rocky are looking for sixth- and seventh-grade basketball players to practice Friday nights. Active Girls on Thursday afternoons specifically targets girls 7 to 10 years old who want to learn a range of sports.

The free-play holiday schedule is posted on the doors of the center, located on Day between Sanchez and 30th streets.

To register for classes, visit www.sfrec.org or call 415-970-8061 for more information. All classes require a Family Account registration. To register, bring identification and proof of residency to the rec center Saturday, Dec. 12, between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., or Monday through Friday, Dec. 14 to 18, between 4 and 7 p.m. Note that the tot room and gym will be closed Dec. 7 to 18 so the floors can be refurbished.

The Friends of Noe Valley Recreation Center maintains an informative website about the classes and free play. Check it out at www.noevalleyreccenter.com.

On the Front Line with Dr. Linde

Starting in January, Noe Valley author Paul Linde, M.D., will be doing the rounds of local bookstores and lecture halls to talk about his new book, *Danger to Self: On the Front Line with an ER Psychiatrist* (University of California Press, 2009).

In addition to giving readings at Book Passage in the Ferry Building Thursday, Jan. 7, and at Books Inc., 2275 Market Street, Thursday, Jan. 14, Linde will discuss his work and the politics surrounding the mentally ill at the Commonwealth Club on Tuesday, Feb. 9.

Linde, who has worked as an emergency psychiatrist at San Francisco General Hospital since 1992 and who is a clinical professor of psychiatry at UCSF School of Medicine, describes the book as a sort of documentary of psychiatric emergency work.

Many of Linde's patients are the homeless people San Franciscans encounter every day on the streets.

"It gives you insight into the homeless mentally ill you see all over the city," he says. "You sort of wonder, Where do they go and how are they evaluated?"

A Noe Valley resident since 1995, Linde has visited or worked at hospitals across the city. His book features stories culled from experiences at UCSF, the county jail, a private hospital, and San Francisco General.

Danger to Self is available at Cover to Cover Booksellers, 1307 Castro Street, among other locations. For more info, go to www.paulindle.com. You can read an article about Linde's previous nonfiction work, *Of Spirits and Madness: An American Psychiatrist in Africa*, at www.noevalleyvoice.com (October 2001 issue).

A New Landscape at Mission Library

With the help of a Noe Valley gardener, the Mission Branch Library on Bartlett Street has turned its patio into a sustainable vegetable garden that will serve as an outdoor classroom where San Franciscans can learn about urban gardening.

Planting beds now line the patio's west wall, and sweet peas covering the surrounding fence attract butterflies while providing an attractive barrier to nearby Orange Alley. San Francisco's Garden for the Environment will offer workshops on composting and on the planning, main-



Students from Marshall Elementary School plant peas, lettuce, and collard greens at the Mission Branch Library's new "teaching garden."

Photo courtesy San Francisco Public Library

taining, and harvesting of food crops.

Students from nearby Marshall Elementary School will tend the "teaching garden," and the library may partner with school programs such as Eat Ur Veggies at Mission High School to give more students access to the garden.

The project came together when Interim Children's Room Manager Lia Hillman approached landscaper Janet Moyer at the Sunday Streets celebration on Valencia Street this summer. Moyer agreed to design the garden and solicit material donations while Hillman secured the necessary approvals and rounded up volunteers. The Mission Greenbelt Project also became involved.

It took one weekend to install the planters, haul in soil and rocks for drainage, and set up the garden's high-tech irrigation system, which uses satellite readings to determine how much water is released,

says Moyer. Such irrigation systems usually cost about \$500, but Moyer convinced Toro Irrigation Products to donate it. She secured donations from other partners as well.

"There are a lot of kids who live in apartments, and they never get a chance to see how carrots grow and things like that," says Moyer, who lives on 21st Street and heads Janet Moyer Landscaping. "So we were pleased we could help them with that teaching program." In November, the kids planted leafy greens like lettuce, collards, peas, and cilantro.

The Mission Library is located at the corner of Bartlett and 24th, between Valencia and Mission streets. For information, call 415-355-2800.

This month's Short Takes were written by Heather World.



CALIFORNIA MISSION-STYLE HOME AND APARTMENT

Centrally located in Eureka Valley with expansive views of surrounding Corona Heights, this two-bedroom home features an open floor plan perfect for entertaining, exceptional period detailing, a chef's kitchen with Viking appliances and custom cabinetry, garden and parking. Additionally, there's a legal 1-BR apartment that may be rented or incorporated into the main house.

> Offered at \$1,249,000



Making Homework Easy

Stephen Moore

DRE# 874403

415.701.2607

stephen@stephenmoorehomes.com

Whether you are on a hill or in the valley
FOR ALL YOUR REAL ESTATE NEEDS...
ALWAYS DEMAND THE BEST

Let Hendel Handle It



Daniel Hendel, Real Estate Agent

Top Producer -- President's Premier -- Top 1 Percent Internationally

(415) 338-0221

www.danhendel.com

Homes on Hills by Hendel

Thank you for your referrals!

Call for a free market analysis



Coldwell Banker
2633 Ocean Ave. at 19th
San Francisco, CA 94132

INTIMATE, SIMPLE AND UNDENIABLY GLOBAL



| menus and more visit pomelosf.com

outer noe valley

1793 church street san francisco ca 94131 / 415 285 2257

brunch: saturday and sunday 10:00 - 2:30

dinner: nightly 5:30

inner sunset

92 judah street san francisco ca 94122 / 415 731 6175

lunch: monday to friday 11:30 - 2:00

dinner: nightly 5:30

pomelo
REFRESHINGLY GLOBAL

NOE'S NEST

Bed & Breakfast

Private baths and lots of amenities

(415) 821-0751

www.noesnest.com

• O' Greenberg's Pub •

Celebrating our 22nd year as "The only pub on Dolores Street"

Featuring
Direct TV on
six TVs
including two
Big Screens

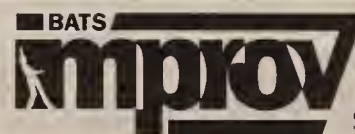
See all NFL
Games



Two
Dart Rooms

Fifteen
beers on tap

1600 Dolores Street (at the corner of 29th and Dolores)
415-695-9216



At the Bayfront Theater,
Fort Mason Center B350
(Marina at Buchanan)
San Francisco



Fourteen-Time "Best of the Bay" Winner!

"Best Theatre Group" & "Best Date Spot"

— SF Weekly, Guardian, Chronicle

"Amazing and Consistently Hilarious"

— SF Weekly

Acclaimed Shows

Each weekend BATS performs interactive shows, from *Whose Line Is It Anyway?*-style sketches to full-length improvised Broadway musicals, murder mysteries, Shakespeare, and more!

Improv Workshops

BATS offers classes for both actors and non-actors.

- Think faster on your feet!
- Reduce your stress level!
- Be more creative!
- Work and play better with others!
- Have more fun!

www.improv.org
(415) 474-6776



STORE TREK

By Lorraine Sanders

Store Trek is a regular *Voice* feature profiling new stores and businesses in Noe Valley. This month, we introduce a new neighborhood eatery on Dolores, and a 24th Street store that's returned to the neighborhood—and the same store space—30 years after it originally opened in 1979.

NOETECA CAFE AND WINE BAR
1551 Dolores Street (at Valley)
824-5524

www.noetecacafe.com

If you think the man preparing your boeuf bourguignon at this cozy eatery looks familiar, it's with good reason. Alex Kamprasert, who opened Noeteca Cafe and Wine Bar with partner Scott McDonald on Oct. 2 in the space that once housed the Last Laugh Coffeehouse, spent the better part of the last decade working at Chloe's Café on Church Street.

After deciding to open an establishment of his own and searching more than a year for the right space, Kamprasert found just what he'd been looking for only a few blocks from his former stomping grounds.

"I looked around, and I said, you know, this is it," recalls Kamprasert of the day he visited the corner storefront at Dolores and Valley streets.

With its outdoor café tables, coffee bar, impressive wine list, and a versatile menu that ranges from chicken salad and challah French toast to specialties like Croque Napoleon (bread pudding layered with ham and cheese, \$8.95) and flat-bread tarts (\$7.95), the eatery aims to become a regular stop for neighborhood residents—for breakfast, lunch, or dinner.

"Alex and I wanted a place that we felt we would be able to come for more than just a special occasion, a place that feels comfortable, a place you could go to every day, take my parents to when they come to town, a place where I can take my friends with kids, a place for a drink after work," McDonald says.

While the lack of a full kitchen shapes the menu's offerings, it does little to hamper the owners' pursuit of affordably-priced fare made with ingredients sold by local and small, family-operated businesses. The restaurant's cage-free eggs hail from Willamette Farms, while bread arrives daily from Il Fornaio. Organic



Hannah Gelb and Mary Marxen (right) show off a few examples of the "European-influenced comfort food" at Noeteca on Dolores Street. Photos by Pamela Gerard

dairy products come from the Straus Family Creamery. The coffee on offer is from Rodger's Coffee and Tea, and is brewed one cup at a time.

You'll find a soup (\$3.95) and quiche of the day (\$7.95) and cheese plates (\$5 to \$15) listed on the specials blackboard in back, as well as heartier offerings such as Three Little Piggies (\$8.95), which sandwiches pulled pork shoulder, onion confit, white cheddar cheese, and house-made barbecue sauce between toasted challah buns. Salads (\$7.95 to \$9.95) range from a caprese with fresh mozzarella, heirloom tomatoes, and sweet basil vinaigrette to a Belgian endive salad with bacon, gorgonzola, and honey roasted walnuts. Chocolate features prominently in the desserts.

"I call it European-influenced comfort food. It's all very simple, wine-friendly. Soups and stews, lots of slow-cooked items," McDonald says.

The most expensive entrée on the menu is \$14.95, and to appeal to those who enjoy sampling a variety of wines, every wine is available by the half-glass.

Taking over the space late last spring, Kamprasert and McDonald, who live in the Sunset District, updated the café's interiors with new lighting fixtures, dark wood cabinets, and a fresh coat of paint on the walls. They kept some elements from the Last Laugh, including several dining tables, a long pew bench, and the idea of using a dresser in the front as a coffee station. The raised area in the back was removed, and a coffee table and cushy chairs brought in to create a "conversation area," says McDonald. A bar-level table for two was added in the

restaurant's back corner and looks perfect for a quiet, romantic dinner. Wireless Internet is available, and there are children's toys on hand to entertain young diners.

Says McDonald: "We wanted to have that simple, homey feeling."

Noeteca (pronounced "NOE-tech-uh") is open Monday through Saturday from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., and on Sunday from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. At press time, Sunday evening hours were coming soon.

STAR MAGIC: THE SECOND GENERATION

4028 24th Street (at Noe)
415-652-1542

Describing one's own merchandise as out of this world might be a bit boastful coming from most retailers. But at one new Noe Valley shop, it's a matter of fact.

"It's all about what's magical and spiritual about the universe that we live in," says Michael Hanfling of the offerings at Star Magic: The Second Generation, the 24th Street store he operates with his father, Richard Hanfling.

In Star Magic's display cases and lining its shelves, tarot card decks mingle with sparkling geode statuary, stained-glass works, soy candles, meditation-worthy Steven Halpern CDs, glow-in-the-dark children's toys, crystals and stones, and a selection of books and DVDs on topics ranging from conspiracy theories to unsolved mysteries. Toys under \$10, many by the Slinky brand, are plentiful, as are one-of-a-kind metal "warrior" accessories by artist Ramiro Perez and paintings, prints, and sculptural creations by the younger Hanfling, who creates art under the name 3Satva. The most expensive items in the store are handmade jewelry and sculptural pieces costing up to \$2,000.

While the shop devoted to all things cosmic may be new to many passersby, it is far from a new concept for the elder Hanfling. In 1979, Hanfling and then-business partner Justin Moreau opened the original Star Magic in Noe Valley in the very same retail space it occupies today (previously home to Simply Chic). Popular among amateur astrologers and astronomers, as well as those interested in the intersection of space and New Age spirituality, the original shop was known as much for its far-out merchandise as it was for its elaborately decorated interiors and a light show that played across the ceiling. The business expanded in 1982 to include a second Star Magic location, in New York, and was eventually sold to an investor. The planets were no longer aligned, however, and in 1998 the owner was evicted from the Noe Valley space for



Michael Hanfling and his father Richard, who co-founded the original Star Magic, are putting lots of positive energy into the shop's reincarnation on 24th Street.

failure to pay rent.

"It had become more of a space toy store. The greed of the eighties and nineties played itself out at Star Magic," says Richard, who is also producer of San Francisco's New Living Expo and the Whole Life Expo held in Los Angeles.

Adds Michael, "The product mix here is more similar to the original concept than what it was in '98."

When Richard, who currently lives in Glen Park, noticed the storefront was available this fall, he struck up a deal with his former landlord to rent the space for the last three months of the year. The new Star Magic opened, appropriately enough, on October's new moon (that was the 18th, for anyone without a lunar calendar).

Before opening the doors, father and son cleared out and cleaned the space, added new carpet, and painted the walls with stars. Along with the merchandise that fills the shop, there's an aura photography station designed to capture on film one's personal energy field using a Polaroid camera and a biofeedback machine (\$10 per aura picture), as well as a kid-friendly "outer space room" painted black and adorned with toys, celestial shapes, cushions, and decorations illuminated with a glowing black light.

The shop may be a temporary venture at the moment, but the Hanflings are open to remaining into the new year.

Says Richard: "We're here through Christmas, and we'll stay as long as customers support the business. The response from the community has been overwhelming, and I would prefer to stay."

Star Magic is open daily from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Run Your Own Business From Home?

Interested in Healthy Chocolate?

www.chocolateddy.blogspot.com

Call Teddy Herzog: (970) 903-3763

Noe Valley resident for 18 years.

Which two industries
are booming in 2009
and 2010?



[skin care/electrolysis]



Holiday Special

Take sweet revenge against aging!!!!!!

Enjoy our chocolate facial
and eyebrow shaping for \$110
(\$130 value)

Expires end of February 2010



3548 22nd Street
San Francisco, CA 94114
415.824.2125
sofia@sofiaskincare.com
www.sofiaskincare.com

Winter Beauty



Hair Play

Where culture and hair come together

You pay for the color

We pay for the cut
Sun.-Wed., with select stylists

Voted BEST SALON on City Search

Try our new **HAIRPLAY SET** for curly hair!

Two locations to serve you

1599 Dolores St.
at 29th St.
415.550.1656

and

211 Church St., Suite A
at Market
415.863.0703

Open 7 Days
www.hairplay.com



We've Moved

We'll miss you Voice readers!

JUST AWESOME!

The BOARD GAME STORE

Thanks for a great year!

- Family Games
- Party Games
- Kids Games
- Strategy Games

- Card Games
- Dice Games
- Educational Games
- Travel Games

New Location

320 West Portal Ave.
Across from the Post Office.



PIAZZA D'ITALIA
LANGUAGE & TRAVEL SCHOOL

ITALIAN

Language & Cooking
Classes in Noe Valley

Buon Natale!!

In San Francisco since 1998

www.piazzaditalia.org 415.285.5130

The Scarlet Sage Herb Co.

organic
herbs and extracts
vitamins & supplements
natural body care
homeopathy
flower essences
aromatherapy
unique plant-inspired gifts

11:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Every Day

1173 Valencia at 23rd Street
San Francisco CA 94110
415-821-0997

Herbalists on staff



THE TAX Managers

Carol Robinson, EA

Member of the National Association of Enrolled Agents

- Individual
- Business Returns
- Electronic Filing

- Tax Planning
- Prior Year Returns
- Out-of-State Returns

Call for an appointment TODAY!

300 Vicksburg Street #1, San Francisco • 415-821-3200

(on the corner of 24th near Church Street) Notary Public Service

RESTORATION
RENOVATION
NEW CONSTRUCTION

A L

artistic license
a guild of artisans



ARCHITECTURE • DECORATIVE PAINTING
TEXTILES • INTERIOR DESIGN
CUSTOM FURNITURE • WALLPAPER
WOODWORK • ORNAMENTAL PLASTER
TILE • PAINTING • COLOR DESIGN
STAINED GLASS • LANDSCAPE DESIGN

Designers, contractors, and artists, providing a range of services from building design to fine finishes and everything in between.

www.artisticlicense.org



BLISS BAR

A neighborhood cocktail lounge

Castro

4026 24th St.

415-826-6200

Noe

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

www.blissbarsf.com

Termite Repair

Foundation Bolting and Seismic Engineering

Serving San Francisco Neighborhoods for 20 Years

415 282 5406

CSL#888938 Licensed Bonded Insured www.ThosBuilders.com

Winter Readers Collection

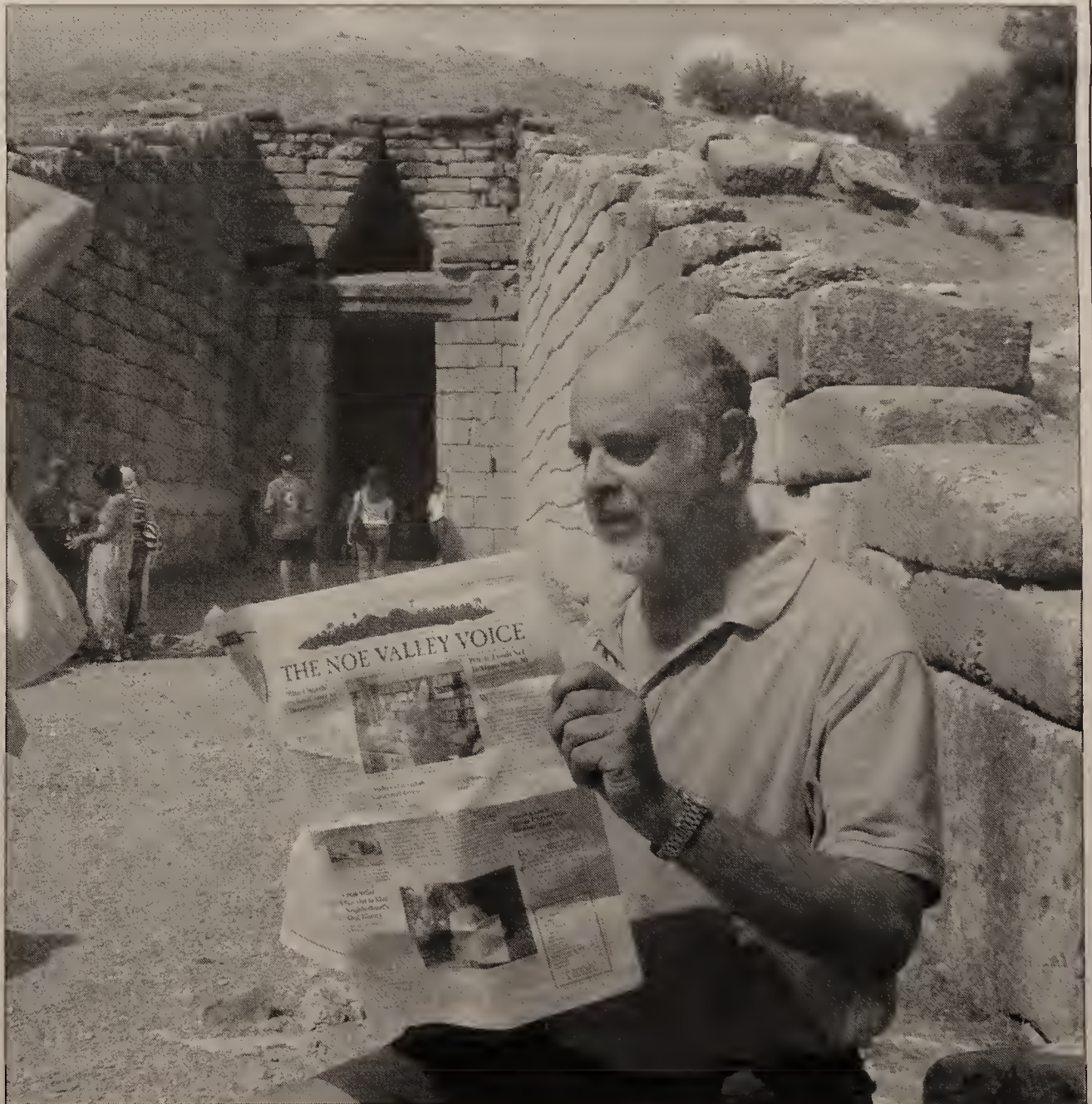


Ron Stenger (left) and **Buck Melton** found their way to the Palace of Versailles in France using the travel tips they learned from years of reading the *Noe Valley Voice*.

It's getting cold in Noe Valley. Last night it was almost 60. So you're probably wanting to go someplace warm. Don't forget to take a copy of the *Noe Valley Voice* with you. And when you return, kindly provide evidence of your journey in the form of a photo print mailed to the *Noe Valley Voice*, Attn: Readers, 1021 Sanchez Street, San Francisco, CA 94114, or you're welcome to email editor@noevalleyvoice.com with your digital file. Thank you!

The next issue featuring our photogenic readership in far-flung places will carry the dateline of February 2010. Yikes, it'll be the 34th year for us. How many has it been for you? Never mind, just remember that your deadline is January 15th. Okay? Thanks again, your friends at the *Noe Valley Voice*.

**For More Readers,
See page 37**



Jim Steinberg takes a moment to rest and read about the modern-day doings back home in Noe Valley before entering Atreus Tomb in Mycenae, Greece.

Photo by Brenda Steinberg

Need child care?



Since 1973, Children's Council of San Francisco has offered **FREE** child care resources and referrals for San Francisco families.

**Contact the experts at
415.343.3300.**



Children's Council of San Francisco
445 Church Street • San Francisco, CA 94114
www.childrencouncil.org • www.gilbert4gov.org
Child care keeps San Francisco working

Jennifer Katz, *inc* Speech ~ Language Pathology

Jennifer Katz, Inc., a provider of speech and language therapy to children of all ages proudly announces

Theraplay

Play-based therapy preschool programs designed for children, ages two through five, with speech, language and/or social skill delays.

We target your child's individual needs with a multi-disciplinary curriculum in a small group setting co-taught by speech language pathologists, special educators, and early educators. The program is highly structured with an array of carefully planned activities targeting social skills, speech and language development, pre-academic, fine and gross motor skills.

A wide range of insurances are accepted.

For more information, please visit our website

www.katzspeech.com

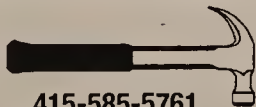
1679 Church Street • San Francisco, CA 94131
415-550-8255 (TALK) • 415-920-9598 (FAX)

Glen Park Neighbors

GLEN PARK HARDWARE

OPEN 6 DAYS

Plumbing • Electric • Glass
Pipe Threading • Keys
Home & Garden Supplies
Pittsburgh Paints
Mon. to Sat. until 5:30 p.m.



415-585-5761
685 CHENERY at DIAMOND



**M. B.
Electric**
(415) 648-2609
Michael Ballingall

Affordable Rates

243 Chenery Street
San Francisco 94131

License No. 479313

GLEN PARK DENTAL
Beautiful Smiles for Life
GENERAL & SEDATION DENTISTRY | EXTREME MAKEOVERS



"I used to hate going to the dentist."

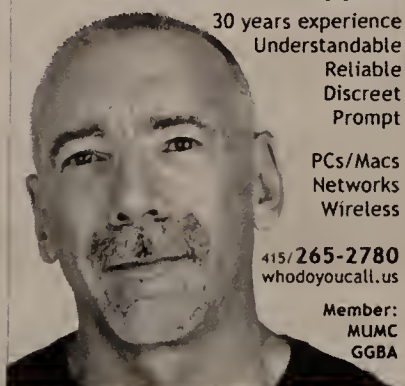
The team at Glen Park Dental has always made sure that I'm comfortable while taking care of me.

Now I have the beautiful smile that I've always wanted... without the fear."

Address 590 Bosworth Street
OUR NEW OFFICE IS CONVENIENTLY LOCATED
DIRECTLY ACROSS FROM THE GLEN PARK BART STATION
Telephone (415) 585-1500
Online www.glenparkdental.com

Who do you call?

Business/Home PC Support



30 years experience
Understandable
Reliable
Discreet
Prompt

PCs/Macs
Networks
Wireless

415/265-2780
whodoyoucall.us

Member:
MUMC
GGBA

CANYON MARKET

village grocer



homemade
SOUPS, SALADS,
SANDWICHES,
PASTRIES &
BREAD

COFFEE BAR, DELI,
ORGANIC PRODUCE, DAIRY,
BULK FOOD, VITAMINS, BEER,
WINE, SPIRITS, CATERING ...and more!

415-586-9999 WWW.CANYONMARKET.COM

2815 DIAMOND ST.
GLEN PARK SF 94131

1 block from the
glen park bart
station





Clive and Roz Watson took a trek home to England recently to celebrate his 40th birthday. In between seeing family and friends and reading the *Noe Valley Voice*, the couple took in some of the sights of London such as the Palace of Westminster (the Houses of Parliament) and Big Ben above.



Daniel Roddick appreciates the fine dining available back home in Noe Valley, but when he was in Madrid, he had to try the fare at "the oldest restaurant in the world," Sobrino de Botin where he favored the partridge and baby squid risotto in ink sauce.

The Noe Valley Family

THE NOE VALLEY VOICE



You can learn a lot from a chicken.

At Children's Day School, chickens—and eggs—are some of our best teachers. As the only preschool through eighth grade school in San Francisco with an actual farm and organic garden, we've made the environment a core component of a rigorous curriculum that is project-based and integrated across academic disciplines. We're growing minds and more: individuals instilled with a passion for learning and a love for the world around them.

To learn more about our approach to education, visit www.cds-sf.org. Or call Aimee Giles at (415) 861-5432 to schedule a tour to come meet our dedicated educators.



UNIVERSITY of
SAN FRANCISCO

Center for Child & Family Development

36 Monterey Blvd., San Francisco, California 94131

Counseling to Adults, Couples, Adolescents, Children & Families

- Depression
- Anxiety
- School Difficulties
- Peer Pressure
- Bullying
- Relationships
- Life Transitions
- Grief/Loss
- Anger

415-239-9300

www.usfca.edu/familycenter

usftherapist@gmail.com

Sliding-Scale Fees

Conveniently located close to Glen Park BART station, freeway and MUNI lines

ADDA CLEVINGER

JUNIOR PREPARATORY AND
THEATER SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN
GRADES K — 8



Where children get more from their time spent in school

• Academics • Athletics • Arts •

Longer School Day and Year
In Keeping with International Standards

All students of the school are members of the
ADDA CLEVINGER YOUTH CHORUS
OF SAN FRANCISCO

Choristers receive a well rounded education and many opportunities to perform. No previous training is required.

YEAR-ROUND ENROLLMENT IF SPACE AVAILABLE

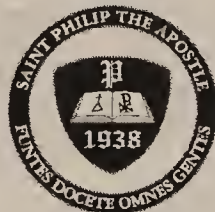
Please call for an interview appointment

180 Fair Oaks Street

in Noe Valley, one block east of Dolores and 23rd Street

(415) 824-2240

www.addaclevenger.org



St. Philip School

Now accepting applications for
Grades 2 through 8

Located in the heart of San Francisco's Noe Valley, St. Philip School offers a K through 8 educational experience that nurtures each students' individuality.

In-curriculum Spanish and a mobile technology laboratory enrich traditional educational programs, and an on-site reading specialist, as well as a math intervention program, ensures that every student is given the tools they need to reach their potential.



A wide variety of afterschool enrichment programs allow students who utilize the extended care program to develop additional skills such as study hall, circus, dance, drama, chess, sports league and science.

Annual events, such as open-space clean-up's, Jump Rope for Heart and our Walk for Fitness, as well as the year round Junior St. Vincent de Paul program, encourage students' personal growth and graduates students who are well prepared for high school and college.



To request information or schedule a tour, please contact
665 Elizabeth Street, San Francisco CA 94114 • (415) 824 8467
www.saintphilipschool.com

Castro Area Planning + Action

Contact: Linton Stables, 541-0344, ext. 230
Email: capa@home4us.org
Meetings: Second Thursday, Eureka Valley Recreation Center, 100 Collingwood St., 7:30 p.m.

Castro Farmers' Market

Wednesdays, 4 to 8 p.m., on Noe between Market and Beaver
Sponsor: Merchants of Upper Market & Castro; www.CastroMerchants.com

Diamond Heights Community Association

Contact: Betsy Eddy, 239-5776
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 31529, San Francisco, CA 94131
Meetings: First Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Call for location.

Dolores Heights Improvement Club

Email: dhic123@gmail.com
Website: www.doloresheights.org
Meetings: Board meetings bimonthly; membership semi-annually.

Duncan Newburg Association (DNA)

Contacts: Pat Lockhart, 282-9360; Diane McCamey, 824-0303; or Deanna Mooney, 821-4045
Mailing Address: 560 Duncan St., San Francisco, CA 94131
Meetings: Call for details.

Eureka Valley Promotion Association

Contact: Scott Wiener, President, 437-9414
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 14137, San Francisco, CA 94114
Meetings: 7:30 p.m., Third Thursday of January, March, May, July, September, and November, at Castro Meeting Room, 501 Castro St. (upstairs)
Website: www.evpa.org

Fair Oaks Neighbors

Contact: Joyce Kurtz, 401-6362
Mailing Address: 261 Fair Oaks St., San Francisco, CA 94110
Note: The annual Fair Oaks Street Fair is held the day before Mother's Day.

MORE GROUPS TO JOIN

Fairmount Heights Neighborhood Association

Contact: Gregg Brooks
Email: sflyric@yahoo.com
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 31059, San Francisco, CA 94131
Meetings: Email for details.

Friends of Billy Goat Hill

Contact: Mo Ghotbi, 821-0122
<http://friendsofbillygoathill.blogspot.com>

Friends of Dolores Park Playground

Contact: Eli Merritt, 285-3774
Email: emerr@earthlink.net
Mailing Address: 3786 20th St., San Francisco, CA 94110
Meetings: Email for information.

Friends of Glen Canyon Park

Contact: Richard Craib, 648-0862
Mailing Address: 140 Turquoise Way, San Francisco, CA 94131
Meetings: Call for details.

Friends of Noe Courts Playground

Contact: Laura Norman
Email: lauranor@yahoo.com
Mailing Address: c/o Friends of Noe Valley, P.O. Box 460953, San Francisco, CA 94146
Meetings: Email for dates and times.

Friends of Noe Valley (FNV)

Contact: Richard May
Email: rambooks@pacbell.net
Website: www.friendsofnoevalley.com
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 460953, San Francisco, CA 94146
Meetings: First or second Thursday (call or email to confirm), at St. Philip's Parish Hall, 725 Diamond St.

Friends of On Lok's 30th Street Senior Center

Contact: Marianne Hampton, 601-7845
Mailing Address: 225 30th St., San Francisco, CA 94131
Meetings: Occasional. Call for details.

Friends of Noe Valley Recreation Center and Park

Contact: Alexandra Torre
Email: noe_park@atorre.com
Website: www.noevalleyreccenter.com
Meetings: Email or check website.

Liberty Hill Neighborhood Association

Contact: John Barbey, 695-0990
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 192114, San Francisco, CA 94119
Meetings: Quarterly. Call for details.

Noe Screenwriting Discussion Group

Contact: Kendall Callas, 821-1310
Email: kendall@microcounsel.com
Meetings: Monthly; e-mail for details.
Pre-requisite: Completed a screenplay or a screenwriting course.

Noe Strolls "Playgroup on Wheels"

Contact: noestrolls@aol.com
Weekly Stroll: Thursday at 11 a.m., departing Holey Bagel, 3872 24th St.
For details, visit www.noestrolls.com.

Noe Valley Association—24th Street Community Benefit District

Contact: Debra Niemann, nemo@rcn.com
Dispatch: To report spills, debris, or garbage on 24th Street, call 559-8492.
Also see www.noevalleyassociation.org.

Noe Valley Democratic Club

Contact: Andy Fleischman, 641-5838
Meetings: Third Wednesday, St. Philip's Church, 725 Diamond St., 7:30 p.m.
Parking available in lot off Elizabeth. Call to confirm meeting dates.

Noe Valley Farmers' Market

Open Saturdays, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., on 24th Street between Vicksburg and Sanchez.
Contact: Leslie Crawford, 248-1332
Mailing Address: 4101 24th St., #401, San Francisco, CA 94114
Meetings: Second Thursday, Noe Valley Ministry (co-sponsor), 1021 Sanchez St., 8 p.m.

Noe Valley Library Campaign

Contacts: Kim Drew, 643-4695, kkdrew@yahoo.com; Marian Chatfield-Taylor, 626-7512, ext. 103
Mailing Address: Friends of the San Francisco Public Library, 391 Grove St., San Francisco, CA 94102

Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association (NVMPA)

Contact: Robert T. Roddick, 641-8687
Email: info@noevalleymerchants.com
Meetings: Last Wednesday, Bank of America, 4098 24th St., 9 a.m.
Mixers: See www.noevalleymerchants.com.

Noe Valley Parent Network

An e-mail resource network for parents
Contact: Mina Kenvin
Email: minaken@gmail.com

Noe Valley Preparedness Committee

Contact: Maxine Fasulis, 641-5536
Email: mfasulis@yahoo.com
Meetings: Call for details.

Outer Noe Valley Merchants

Contact: Jim Appenrodt, 641-1500
Mailing Address: 294 29th St., San Francisco, CA 94131
Meetings: Call for details.

San Jose/Guerrero Coalition to Save Our Streets

Contact: Don Oshiro, 285-8188
Email: contact@sanjoseguerrero.com
Website: www.sanjoseguerrero.com
Meetings: See website.

See Jane Run Running Programs

Contacts: Shauna Nyborg, 415-401-8338; Deb DeFanti, 415-839-9393
Email: events@seejanerun.com
Address: 3910 24th St. (at Sanchez)
Website: <http://www.seejanerun.com/t-Training.aspx>

Upper Noe Neighbors

Contact: Vicki Rosen, 285-0473
Mailing Address: 169 Valley St., San Francisco, CA 94131
Meetings: Third or fourth Thursday (call to confirm), Upper Noe Recreation Center, Day and Sanchez, 7:30 p.m.

COLDWELL BANKER

californiamoves.com

LOVELY
EUREKA VALLEY
CYPRESS VIEW
HOME

This spacious and light-filled home has qualities inherent of two great neighborhoods, four bedrooms, a large garden and an inimitable view. The golden hardwood floors add to the periodic details and provide a warming touch. The kitchen is a chef's treasure, with a more than generous space plan, granite counters, pantry, dining area and a four-burner stove with a grill and griddle. The large windows in the kitchen and adjoining deck take in the western view and provide a great indoor/outdoor quality.

\$1,575,000



Dan McLean
415.850.7613

**EXQUISITE VICTORIAN CONDOMINIUM**

Take a second look! Top floor Victorian condo with approximately 3,100 square feet of space. This three bedroom, three bath multi-level condominium has the feel of a single family home. An entertainer's dream, this home features a double parlor, formal dining room and a gourmet eat-in kitchen that opens to a private deck on the main floor. The dramatic second level includes a family room and a two-level media room with roof access from the mezzanine level. It also features central A/C, laundry and a one-car garage.

\$1,625,000



Brendon Kearney
415.640.4757

Kevin Kearney
415.297.3874



Coldwell Banker
San Francisco Market Street
2355 Market Street
415.437.4500



Happy Holidays

From our homes to yours, we wish you and yours peace, love and joy this holiday season. Thank you for continued loyalty, support and goodwill. We are proud to be your trusted choice for real estate.

The Noe Valley Family

THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

Fences Decks Stairs

New Construction Repairs Refinishing

Serving San Francisco Neighborhoods for 20 Years

415 282 5406

CSL#888938 Licensed Bonded Insured www.ThosBuilders.com

This Space Available for Lease

Call Steve at 415.239.1114

for display advertising service in your neighborhood

The Noe Valley Voice



*An easy,
positive
experience*

where you're
treated like
family and
the Doctors
make every
effort to ensure
your comfort.

Serving Families in Noe Valley for 15 Years • Insurance Plans Welcome
Saturday Appointments Available • Whitening Available

1508 CHURCH ST. (between Duncan & 27th St. on the Church line) TEL 415.647.6000

Joy E. Morris, D.D.S., Inc. • Amy Chen, D.D.S

Ladybug Ladybug

Lovely things to give
and to get!



Ladybug Ladybug is as much a
recognizable staple of Noe
Valley as the moms and dads
pushing strollers and walking
dogs are.

We are chock full of goodies
for kids and adults and have
some of the best greetings
cards out there to make your
friends and family smile.

We try to support as many local
companies as we can find, such
as: Baby Jak, Slainte bags, Bald
Guy Greetings, & our own line
Lisa's Garden.

3870 24th Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. #415 824 5477

St. Paul's School

Where Tradition and the Future Meet
To Insure Academic Excellence for Our Children



For over 90 years, St. Paul's School has been educating the children of Noe Valley and the Mission. It's reputation for academic excellence is unsurpassed. And now, adding to the richness of this legacy, St. Paul's proudly educates its students in the most modern school building in Noe Valley.

Opened in 1999, the new St. Paul's School is designed from the ground up for the educational needs of the 21st century. Fully Cat 5 wired for the Internet, St. Paul's offers your child the teachers and the tools to excel academically in a warm, friendly and welcoming environment. We invite you and your family to come visit and see for yourself. Become part of a great community committed to ensuring the finest education possible for our children.

To learn more, or to schedule a school tour,
call us at 415.648.2055

Or visit us on the web at www.stpaulsf.net

ST. PAUL'S SCHOOL
1690 Church Street
San Francisco, CA 94131

CALLING ALL PROSPECTIVE KINDERGARTEN FAMILIES!

I CAN HELP YOU:

- FIND A SCHOOL THAT IS RIGHT FOR YOU
- MANEUVER THROUGH THE KINDERGARTEN LOTTERY
- MAXIMIZE THE ODDS TO GET A SCHOOL YOU WANT

CONTACT

TODD DAVID

TODD.DAVID@STANFORDALUMNI.ORG

(415) 401-0625

Mission Education Center Welcomes Children New to U.S.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

dents come from Mexico, Central America, and sometimes South America, says Principal Deborah Molof.

"These kids are motivated to learn, and they're grateful to be here," says Molof. "The same with their parents."

Being surrounded by Spanish-speaking staff helps ease the adjustment to a new country, says fourth-grade teacher Ricardo Cortez, who attended MEC after arriving from El Salvador 36 years ago. He says he appreciated having a school specifically designed to acclimate him to the United States.

"It was quite a surprise because El Salvador was the only place I knew," Cortez says. Suddenly he was making friends with Mexicans, Nicaraguans—even two students from Greece. "There were people from just about everywhere." The students compared lives from their former countries: what food they ate, what slang words they used.

These days, all students at MEC are from Spanish-speaking countries. Many of them have a lot to learn, sometimes starting with Spanish itself, says Molof.

"Often their skills are low—some of them are pre-literate," she says. Once students reach grade-level Spanish, they start on oral and written English. The emphasis is on academics and language ac-

quisition, but Molof has worked hard to secure grants and create partnerships to give the students more than rote learning.

The Museum of Craft and Folk Art hosts culturally relevant workshops, like one on Incan art. The Performing Arts Workshop sends dance and creative writing teachers to teach students. The San Francisco Ballet spends 10 weeks teaching world dance to second- to fourth-graders. Other grants are used to teach children and their parents healthy eating and exercise habits. San Francisco School Volunteers sends people to help in the classroom and in the afterschool tutoring program, Excel.

Molof also secures the kinds of district and city resources that will best serve a transplanted population, like vision, hearing, and dental screening. To follow up on possible problems, school staff compiled a list of agencies that can help with everything from getting glasses to getting financial aid.

Staff, parents, and students work closely together, weaving a tight-knit community. There are twice-monthly workshops for parents, on subjects like positive discipline and how to help with homework. Turnout is good, in part because parents enjoy meeting each other, Molof says.

"They're building a foundation here in this country and they're making connections," she says.

Molof wants to connect parents to the school, as well as to each other. She accommodates parents who work long or odd hours by offering workshops in the mornings and in the evenings. Teachers can conduct the parent-teacher confer-



Renovated last year, the 98-year-old Kate Kennedy building at Noe and 30th streets now houses Mission Education Center, a school for Latino immigrant children, and the Kate Kennedy Child Development Center, a before- and after-school program. Photo by Sally Smith

ences by phone, if necessary. In November and December, Molof and her staff spend a lot of time helping parents with enrollment applications for next year, helping them choose schools that will best suit their children, and guiding them through the appeals process if necessary.

Woven into the academic and artistic program are the traditions and customs of American life. Though the school celebrates traditional Latin American holidays like Dia de los Muertos, students will learn to say "trick or treat" on Halloween and to tell the history of the American flag on President's Day. They learn about Cesar Chavez and Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Thanksgiving at the school is a huge affair, and schools Superintendent Carlos Garcia has attended in past years.

"It's not about the pilgrims and Indians," says Molof. "It's more about coming to a new land and being grateful." Her students relate that to their own experience in essays.

School secretary Marina Vargas has been with Mission Education Center since its inception in 1972, when it was located on Fair Oaks Street.

"There are so many things that families need when they come to this country," she says. "This is the best place for those children because they come to a place where they feel comfortable."

The Noe Valley site, at 1670 Noe Street, recently underwent renovations and now sports a dramatic earth-tone paint job, a new playground, and better access for the handicapped. Built in 1911, the school was for many years an elementary school that drew most of its population from Noe Valley, says Molof.

Many older residents remember it fondly.

"I have people come in and say, 'I went to this school as a kid,'" says Molof.

One of the school district's 35 child development centers is located on the campus. The centers offer meals and homework assistance before and after school and during vacations. Twelve schools use the Kate Kennedy Child Development Center, though Molof estimates only 10 of her students are currently enrolled.

Molof has been at MEC for nine years now, and she measures success in part by how many families and students use the school as a resource even after they've left.

"We're the first place they come because of the care and the trust we build here," she says.

Cortez also senses a close, family atmosphere. He himself went on to Lowell High School and San Francisco State University before returning to MEC to teach in 1989. At that time, civil wars raged in Nicaragua and El Salvador, and Cortez was able to empathize with his bewildered and sometimes traumatized students. He, too, had relatives who died in the wars.

"I knew what this school was all about," he says. "This was the first school I wanted to work at. It feels I'm doing something worthwhile."



Principal Deborah Molof is especially proud of the arts classes offered at Mission Education Center. Students get regular visits from the San Francisco Ballet, the Museum of Craft and Folk Art, and the city's Performing Arts Workshop.

Photo by Pamela Gerard



- ◆ Natural, Organic Products ◆ Organic Fruits and Vegetables
- ◆ Quality Selection of Domestic & Imported Wines, Beer & Spirits
- ◆ Fresh Acme Breads Daily ◆ Vitamin Selection
- ◆ We Carry Rupam's Herbal Products ◆ Fresh Flowers

Your Neighborhood Health Food Store

1400 Guerrero Street at 26th Street

415-282-6274 • Open Every Day

www.26thandGuerreroMarket.com

Hours: Mon – Fri 8 am – 9:00 pm • Sat – Sun 9 am – 9pm

Groundbreaking Landscapes

custom design, build & installation



license no. 802371

Member: CLCA

415.699.6209

www.groundbreakinglandscapes.com

The Noe Valley Family

THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

Bathroom & Kitchen Remodeling

Serving San Francisco Neighborhoods for 20 Years

415 282 5406

CSL#888938

Licensed Bonded Insured

www.ThosBuilders.com

CROSSWORD FANS!

Solve the *Noe Valley Voice* Crossword online!
Get hints, peek at answers, or print out an old puzzle to work with using pencil and paper. Find it at:

www.noevalleyvoice.com.

OPEN HOUSE January 31st, 10 am



*A Warm & Nurturing Environment
that Fosters a Love for learning*

- Preschool & Pre-Kindergarten
- Fun, developmental hands-on programs for kids age 3 to 5.9
- Full and half day programs
- Located in Noe Valley

Call for a tour appointment
(415) 282-0143

Visit our website for more info!

www.SaintPhilipPreschool.org

HOMESELLERS

- Find out what the home down the street sold for

- Free list with pictures of Noe Valley area sales & current listings

Listen to our
free recorded message
1.800.596.8310, ID 1514

Jane Ivory, Hill & Co. DRE #1058116

Need an extra caring hand with
childcare, home health care, and
housecleaning sectors?



Call
Caring Hands
Workers' Association for

Experience,
Friendly & Reliable Workers,
Affordable Rates,
Reference Checks,
CPR Certification,
and Sensitivity to Family Diversity.

Call: 415. 626.2128 x 305

FOUNDED IN 1973

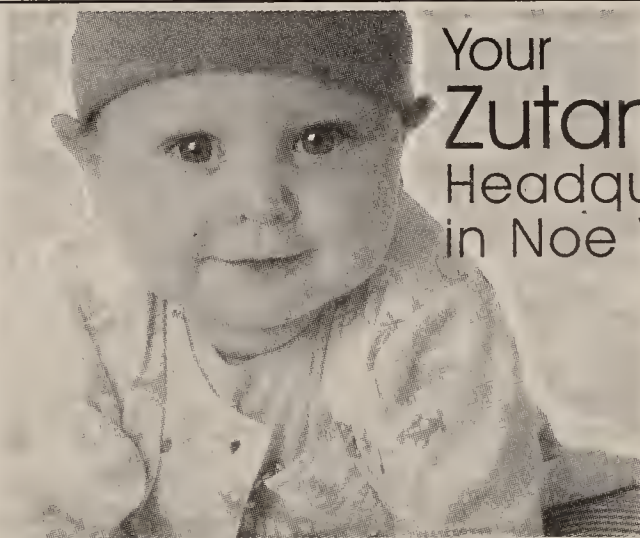
Grades K-8
Small Classes
Challenging Academics
Multi-Cultural
Innovative Programs
Extended Care
Tuition Assistance

1387 Valencia Street
San Francisco, CA 94110
www.synergyschool.org
(415) 567-6177

OPEN HOUSE
Sat. December 5
11:00 - 2:00

Synergy admits students regardless of race, color, creed, gender, disability, sexual orientation, nationality or ethnic origin.

Your
Zutano
Headquarters
in Noe Valley



SMALL FRYS

4066 24th Street in the Heart of Noe Valley
Open every day • (415) 648-3954 • www.smallfrys.com

MUSIC TOGETHER of SF



Bring music into your family life using songs, movement, rhythm chants & instrument play!

Infants
Toddlers
Preschoolers
Big Kids
Parents
Caregivers



*FIVE STARS
to director
Paul Godwin &
his teachers
GoCuteKids.com

Easy NOE VALLEY location
Try a FREE Demo Class this week!

To get started, email us at
paul@musictogethersf.com

Register NOW for Winter!

10 week semester from
November 30th to February 22nd

(415) 596 0299

www.MusicTogetherSF.com

HOMEBIRTH IN NOE VALLEY

Homebirth
Labor Support
Well-Woman Exams
Prenatal Counseling
Cervical Caps

Maria A. Iorillo
Licensed Midwife
415 285-9233

www.wisewomanchildbirth.com

WISWOMAN
Midwifery Care
to understand
and experience
the beauty and
power of birth

WISWOMAN
CHILDBIRTH
TRADITIONS

Faith
Arts
Scholarships
for Girls
Entering 4th
grade for the
'08-'09 year

Modern
Campus

Nurturing the Future

925 Chenery St, SF 94131 • 415.584.8383 • www.stjohnseagles.com



The Pumpkin Patch on Vicksburg Street: Noe Valley Harvest Festival organizers created an oasis of hay bales and pumpkins ready for decorating on October 24, while parents donned their shades and sunscreen for a day in the “field” with the youngsters.

Photo by Sally Smith

“How do I know what schools
are right for my child?”

“How can I pay for
private school?”

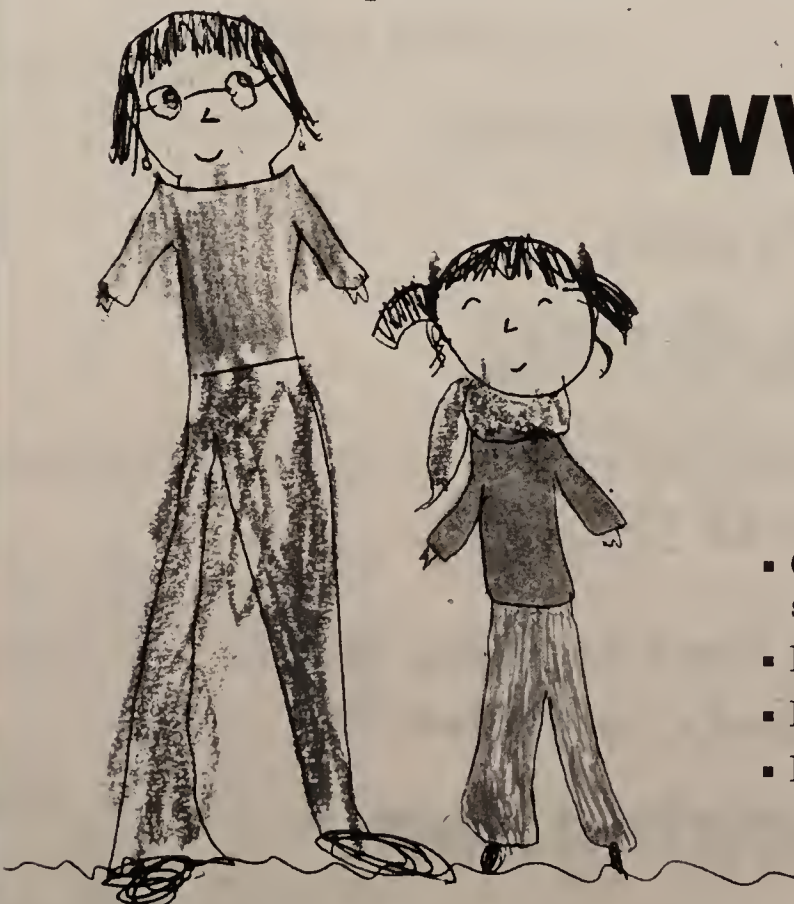


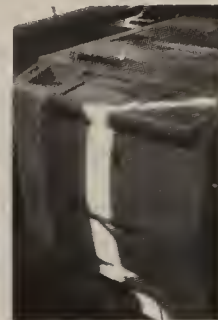
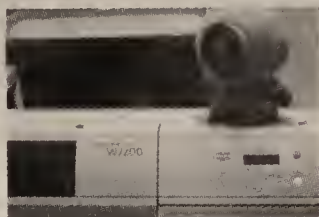
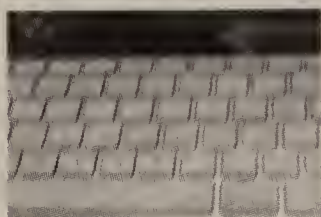
www.issfba.org

Independent Schools of the San Francisco Bay Area

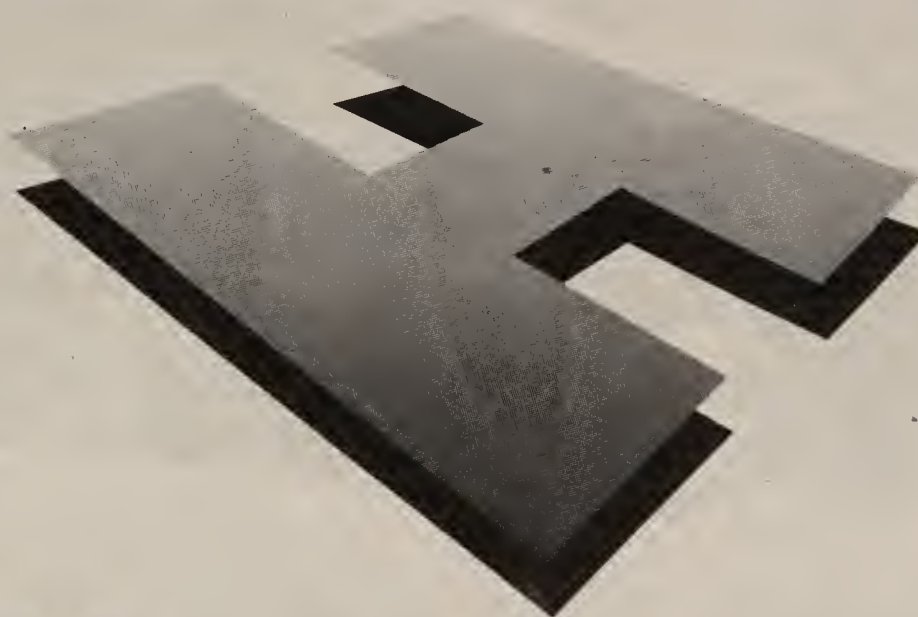
A new website for parents
that helps you do your homework
on private schools

- Comprehensive listing of over 40 independent schools in the Bay Area
- Behind the scenes look at the admissions process
- Insight and guidance on affording private school
- FAQs and links to important resources





Digital Printing, Color Copies, PrePress and Graphic Design



HH Imaging

DIGITAL PRINTING

298 Alabama St. – 2nd Floor, SF
415.431.4731

Color Copies from 35¢
black and white
copies from 7¢

Graphic Design
Services available
Same day service
on most orders

Open Monday thru Friday

8am - 4 pm

Free Parking

on right side of building
(across from SF SPCA)

Design Online Everything From Business Cards,
PostCards, Greeting Cards, to Posters at

www.hhimaging.com

MORE BOOKS TO READ

Winter Wonderland at the Library

By Librarian Susan Higgins

It's December again. Time for giving parties, going to parties, choosing gifts, and if you're lucky, time for curling up with a good book, watching a movie, or listening to your favorite music. Whatever your plans, the Noe Valley-Sally Brunn Library has lots of books, magazines, movies, and CDs to help you plan your entertaining or to keep you entertained.

For Adults

- Find menus and recipes for memorable holiday meals, for omnivores as well as vegetarians, in *Healthy Hedonist Holidays* by Myra Kornfeld.
- If you're asked to bring a dish to a party, check out *The Gourmet Potluck: Show-Stopping Recipes for the Buffet Table*, by Beth Hensperger.
- In *Ilip Tastes: The Fresh Guide to Wine*, San Francisco sommelier Courtney Cochran provides guidance on wines that will help you make selections more confidently, whether you're buying wines for parties, for gifts, or in restaurants.
- *American Christmas*, published by Williams Sonoma, includes a chapter titled "Gifts from the Holiday Kitchen," which offers a range of ideas for delicious food gifts in beautiful packages.
- *Simple Sewing with a French Twist*, by Celine Dupuy, contains more than 50 projects for sewers of all skill levels, including placemats, bohemian flip-flops, a French cotton table runner, and a tasseled shoe tote.
- *Holiday Knits: 25 Great Gifts from Stockings to Sweaters*, by Sara Lucas and Allison Isaacs, offers knittable projects, including scarves, caps, toys, and ornaments, organized by time commitment: quick, week or two, two or more weeks.
- For a fun evening at home with family or friends, you can watch *A Colbert Christmas: The Greatest Gift of All!* Stephen Colbert, Toby Keith, Elvis Costello, John Legend, Willie Nelson, and Jon Stewart celebrate the holidays on this DVD from last year's Comedy Central broadcast.

For Children

- Stop by the library to see our display of children's holiday stories, movies, and crafts books.
- In *Reindeer Christmas* by Mark Kimball Moulton, two children and their grandmother help a hungry deer, who then disappears before sunrise. On Christmas morning they receive a small wooden box with a note from Santa Claus. *Preschool to first grade.*
 - *A Pirate's Night Before Christmas* by Philip Yates is a retelling of the famous poem, for pirate lovers. The story has funny pictures of buccaneers and a sleigh pulled by sea horses. *Preschool to grade 3.*
 - A Jewish soldier during the Revolutionary War lights the menorah and tells General George Washington the story of Hanukkah, in *Hanukkah at Valley Forge* by Stephen Krensky. *Grades 2 to 4, ages 5 and up.*
 - The DVD of *The Berenstain Bears'*

Christmas Tree follows the bears as they look for the perfect Christmas tree and learn about good manners and sharing. *Preschool to age 8.*

■ *Family Fun Parties* by Deanna F. Cook is full of party plans for families with children of all ages. Find ideas for drinks, games, and decorations for a Christmas carnival, Hanukkah, and New Year's Eve parties.

For Teens

The Teen Corner has books, graphic novels, movies, and music CDs selected especially for teens. For a winter-vacation reading escape, try one of the excellent books from the American Library Association's 2009 Best Books for Young Adults list:

- *Bog Child* by Siobhan Dowd is a powerful story of love and political conflict set in Ireland during the 1980s.
- When her ex-boyfriend records a hit song about their breakup, a girl becomes the target of tabloids and paparazzi in the humorous novel *Audrey, Wait!* by Robin Benway.
- After a terrorist strike hits San Francisco, a 17-year-old computer geek fights back against an increasingly frightening system of surveillance in *Little Brother* by Cory Doctorow.
- Two survivors of a tsunami work together to help build a new world in the thought-provoking *Nation* by Terry Pratchett.
- For horror fans, *Bonechiller* by Graham McNamee takes readers to the Canadian tundra, where Danny and his friend are being chased by a cannibalistic beast.
- *Stuff to Hold Your Stuff*, by Ellen Warwick and Bernice Lum, has easy instructions for make-it-yourself gifts, such as beach bags, yoga totes, purses, wallets, and toiletry cases.
- Teens who'd like to de-clutter their bedrooms, organize their backpacks, and create a fresh work space in 2010 should read *Where's My Stuff? The Ultimate Teen Organizing Guide*, by Samantha Moss.

LIBRARY EVENTS

Make Gifts from SCRAP

■ A workshop called "Reusing Time: Make Gift Bags from Last Year's Calendars" will be presented by SCRAP (Scroungers' Center for Reusable Art Parts) on Tuesday, Dec. 8, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Space is limited. Please stop by the library or call 415-355-5707 to register.

Book Discussion Group

■ The Noe Valley Library Book Group meets on Wednesday, Dec. 16, 7 to 8:45 p.m.

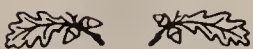
Toddler Tales and Story Time

■ Kids ages 1 to 3 will love the songs and rhymes at *Toddler Tales*, held Tuesdays, Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29, from 10:15 to 10:45 a.m. *Family Story Time*, for children to age 5, starts at 11 a.m. Call 355-5707 to confirm.

All events take place at the Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey Street near Castro.

BRANCH HOURS

Noe Valley-Sally Brunn Branch Library 451 Jersey St., 355-5707						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1-5	10-9	1-9	10-6	1-6	10-6	



CROSSWORD SOLUTION

Bus Fare by Michael Blake

RAJAH	CREW	FARR
EBONY	RENE	OREO
NOKIA	ADDA	RIPS
TWENTYFOUR	TERI	
TOTES	TYSON	
ASDF	DESERVE	
TWEAKED	RESIDES	
MISSAL	VEGOUT	
SMITTEN	HITHERE	
PHRASES	TROT	
SPRAY	TURIN	
THUS	THIRTYFIVE	
EONS	HATE	LAGER
ANTE	ONER	OZONE
LESS	USDA	NERDS



HEART+
HANDS=
HOSPICE

BECOME A VOLUNTEER!

Hospice care is a team program for terminally ill patients and their caregivers which supports patients in remaining home for as long as possible. Volunteers provide companionship, caregiver relief, and other support to families and caregivers. All volunteers are provided extensive training and ongoing support and education. Once trained, they have the freedom to structure their hours during the week or evenings and weekends.

If interested in finding out more, please visit the website below or contact Bernard Douglas by e-mail or phone.

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/KPHV/>
Bernard.Douglas@kp.org
415 833 3173

Join us on Dec 25 for FREE Target Family Day!



Join us on December 25 for FREE admission, art-making activities, exhibition-inspired performances and films, and access to all CIM exhibitions, including:

There's a Mystery There: Sendak on Sendak
(on view through January 19, 2010)

Presented By



CONTEMPORARY
JEWISH MUSEUM

736 Mission Street, San Francisco, CA 94103
415.655.7800 | thecjm.org
11 AM-5 PM, Thurs 1-8 PM, Closed Wed

This exhibition has been organized by The Rosenbach Museum & Library, Philadelphia, and was made possible thanks to a grant from the Institute of Museum & Library Services, as well as the Greater Philadelphia Tourism & Marketing Corporation. The national tour is presented by HarperCollins Children's Books. The San Francisco presentation has been made possible by lead support from the Koret and Taube Foundations, with additional support from The Louise and Claude Rosenberg Jr. Family Foundation and the Mimi and Peter Haas Fund. Image Credits: Detail from final drawing for *Where the Wild Things Are*. Pen and ink, watercolor © Maurice Sendak, 1963. All rights reserved.

Lead Support Media Sponsors
KORET TAUBE BayAreaParent
Target Family Day Media Sponsor

SF LIVE ARTS
PRESENTS

THE NOE VALLEY MUSIC SERIES

At the Noe Valley Ministry • 1021 Sanchez St. near 23rd • All Ages Welcome

Call 415-454-5238 for Info • www.noevalleymusicseries.com

Advance Tickets at Phoenix Books & Records - 3957 24th Street, San Francisco - 415.821.3477

Sat.
Dec. 5

British acoustic guitar legend **ADRIAN LEGG**

plus TEJA GERKEN

8:15 p.m.

Sat.
Jan. 2

RAMBLIN' JACK ELLIOT

8:15 p.m.

Sat.
Jan. 9

Our version of *Glee* with **RED HOT & BLUE**

- Yale University a cappella stars

8:15 p.m.

The
San Francisco
Mystery
Bookstore

4175 24th Street

415-282-7444

sfmysterybooks@aol.com

Open Sunday - Thursday
11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Friday & Saturday
11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

The Best Place on the
Planet to buy mysteries
is the San Francisco
Mystery Book Store,
the oldest mystery
book store in the U.S.!

QUIT
SMART™

Stop smoking
in three sessions.

Individuals • Couples • Groups

27 years experience

Noe Valley Office

Lori Feldman, LCSW

415.285.9770

QuitSmartLori@aol.com

Psychotherapy also offered for
anxiety, stress, depression
and communication issues.

Neighborhood Services

THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

sewing LESSONS

ALL AGES, ALL LEVELS

1400 Castro St. | 415-920-1956
connie@walkershaw.com

on-the-spot. garden design



by
deanna glory
garden design
by an award-winning
designer at an
affordable price

415.695.9400 e deanna@glorydesign.com
www.glorydesign.com

grassroots interior design studio

space planning
color
lighting
furniture
window coverings
bathrooms and kitchens
drafting

san francisco tel/fax (415) 242-6198

Quit Smoking in One Session

DR. JONATHON D. GRAY • HYPNOSIS
San Francisco • 415-563-2333

Addictions • Stress Reduction
Pain Control • Weight Control
Phobias • Optimum Performance



ALMOST INSTANT INTERIORS

Relax in Style

We specialize in unique and affordable:
• One-day Makeovers • Color Consultations
• Interior Architecture • Full Service Design

(415) 824-4440 almostinstant@gmail.com

Ayurvedic Living

Rita Cruz-Zaterka C.A.S., P.K.S.
Ayurvedic Specialist, Iyengar Yoga Instructor
Jyotish Astrologer, Vastu Design Consultant
For a private consultation call or e-mail
415-939-2770
yogayurveda@hotmail.com

The Garage Store Merchandise Lounge

Unique holiday gifts & funky stuff

Check it out!

CALL FOR HOURS: (415) 550-6641
1104 Sanchez at 24th Street
LizGaragestore@gmail.com

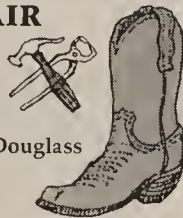
Peter Rothblatt Massage and Bodywork

75 Minutes
\$80

For More Info
415.845.0678

SHOE REPAIR

by
The Pioneer
Renewer



4501 18th St. at Douglass

415-255-4576

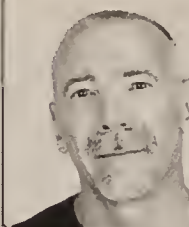
"They're the only place we'll go for repairs!"
Jerry - Owner of Gimme Shoes

"Not just a shoe repair but a good old fashioned
cobbler." Veronica - Astrid's Rabat Shoes



Who Do You Call?

Business/Home PC Support



PCs/Macs
Wireless
Networks
House calls
30 years experience

Bill Hought
415/265-2780
whodoyoucall.us
info@wdyc.us

GRACE M. SANTANA PLUMBING CONTRACTOR

LIC #525396 info@gracesantanaplumbing.com

www.gracesantanaplumbing.com

Mobile:

(415) 350-6574

Office:

(415) 641-4740

Multi-Pure
Water Filter
Distributor

Service,
Repairs,
Small Jobs



NEW!

Solve the *Voice* Crossword online!
Get hints, peek at answers, or
print out an old puzzle to work
with pencil and paper.

Go to

www.noevalleyvoice.com.

McDonnell & Weaver

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

4091 24th Street
NOE VALLEY
(415) 641-0700

PURPLE IRIS



Jill A. Sweringen L.Ac
Barb Schoeffel MPT
Acupuncture, Physical Therapy
Shiatsu, Holistic Healing

1404 Church St. @ 26th
415-642-7442 purpleiris.net

[stitch]

www.stitchsf.com

FABRICS & HARDWARE
CUSTOM WINDOW TREATMENTS
FURNISHINGS FOR THE HOME

BY APPOINTMENT 415.641.6081

Quit Smoking in One Session

DR. JONATHON D. GRAY • HYPNOSIS • SAN FRANCISCO • 415-563-2333

Addictions • Stress Reduction • Pain Control • Weight Control
Phobias • Optimum Performance

Rick Collins

Macintosh Help

Troubleshooting/Tutoring



Tune-Ups/Upgrades

SFMacMan.com

(415) 821-1792

Got News?

Send your press release to
the *Noe Valley Voice*, 1021
Sanchez Street, S.F., CA
94114. Better yet, e-mail
editor@noevalleyvoice.com.
Please include a phone
number. Thanks.

ROGER R. RUBIN

Attorney and Counselor at Law

(415) 441-1112

Law Chambers

1155 Pine Street

San Francisco, CA 94109



DESIGNS BY WENDY L. MILLER

Custom Sewing Since 1980

One-of-a-Kind Bridal, Formal
and Career Wear

Slipcovers and Soft Furnishings
for the Home

415.648.8514 for appointment



LINDA G. ROSE, LCSW
PSYCHOTHERAPY

moving towards emotional, physical,
mental, and spiritual well-being

415 • 643 • 3996

www.lindagrose.com

SAN FRANCISCO • NOE VALLEY OFFICE
BCD, ADTR • LCS 15026

NOTICE TO READERS

California law requires that contractors taking
jobs that total \$500 or more (labor and/or
materials) be licensed by the Contractors
State License Board. State law also requires
that contractors include their license numbers
on all advertising. Check your contractor's sta-
tus at www.cslb.ca.gov or 800-321-2752.
Unlicensed persons taking jobs that total less
than \$500 must state in their advertisements
that they are not licensed by the Contractors
State License Board.

REPAIRS WITH A WOMAN'S TOUCH



A Non-Intrusive
Presence in Your Home
Sensitive to Your
Needs

Julie Panger (415) 517-4013

No Job Too Small



fix redesign for your home one day decorating using what you already own

Alycia Freeman

415-726-0156

Alycia@FixRedesign.com

www.fixredesign.com



Neighborhood Services

THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

Pat Trainor Drywall Inc.

We match all existing finishes

Commercial • Residential
Remodels

New Construction
Wall Texturing & Patching

ALL WORK GUARANTEED

(415) 456-3550

License #795763

BROOKLINE ARIES ELECTRIC CO.

Residential and Commercial
Full and Prompt Service

(415) 239-5393

SMALL JOBS WELCOME

Prompt Service Today. Lic.#273651 Since 1972
Reference Ph.#s & Insurance Provided
Very Reasonable Prices are Standard
121 Santa Rosa Ave., SF Resident 39 Years
BrooklineElectric.com for sample bids, etc.



Morrow Construction

Specializing in
Wood Fences

License No. 343633

Tom Morrow **(650) 994-6892**

J. Newell Construction

EMERGENCY SERVICE AVAILABLE

Remodeling Kitchens & Bathrooms
Decks, Fences & Repairs
Free Estimates • Insured

Lic #881297

Call Jeff 415-305-5950

*The stuff of which
great neighborhoods
are made.*

NOE VALLEY ROOFING SPECIALISTS

Serving Noe Valley for over 10 Years
REASONABLE PRICES - SENIOR DISCOUNTS

ALL FORMS OF RESIDENTIAL ROOFING

FREE ESTIMATES

Bonded and Insured - ValueStar Rated

Call Mike (Noe Valley Resident)
at Highland Roofing

415.240.9366

State License 626953

CAS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

Lic. 708239

Kitchens • Bathrooms
Additions • Foundations
General Construction

(415) 863-9167

Serving the Bay Area Since 1988

Yoel's Hauling

• Yard and Garage Clean-Up
• Dump Runs • Fully Insured
• Honest and Very Reasonable

(415) 282-2023

Pager: 202-6572

BEST PRICE BEST PRODUCT

Carpentry • Fences • Decks
Stairs • Windows • Doors
Tile Setting • Bathroom Remodeling

HANDYPERSON SERVICES:
JUST FIX IT NOW!

CA State Contractor License #888938

415.282.5406

www.npiweb.com/stocker
Every inspection includes
a free, customized
Green Evaluation
of your home.

"Go Green
with Dean"

650-571-5300

herrnet@gmail.com

Property
Inspector

Noe* Valley Handyman Pavel Kruk

Reasonable, Reliable
& Respectful

At your service
for general
household jobs
(415) 490 8294

BLOOM PAINTING, INC.

(415) 821-3752

bloompaintinginc.com

CA Lic. # 833578

Member Better Business Bureau
And P.D.C.A.

Q Painting Inc.



www.QPAINT.com

415.412.1642

KOFMAN PAINTING Co.

(415) 504-7166

CELL (415) 203-5412

Interior / Exterior
Wood & Drywall Repairs,
Crown Moldings

Lic 707984 Fully Insured

Established in San Francisco 1991

NEW!

Solve the *Voice* Crossword online!

Get hints, peek at answers, or
print out an old puzzle to work
with pencil and paper.

Go to www.noevalleyvoice.com.

TUGGEY'S

Hardware for the Handyperson
Denny Giovannoli

Weekdays 9 - 5:30
Saturday 9 - 5
Sunday 11 - 3



3885 24th Street
San Francisco, California 94114
415-282-5081

WWW.PHOTOGRAPHYBYZ.COM
FAMILY SESSION COMPLEMENTARY PRINTS \$200
HOLIDAY SESSION WITH CARDS \$100 MATERNITY \$150

Gardens

Design, Renovation and
Gardening

Sensitive approach to
creating and caring for
your special retreat space.

Environmentally
appropriate plantings and
organic garden methods.
lic. #651703

**Call Michele Schaal
(415) 282-1612**

BUCKNER PAINTING Co.

Gavin Buckner Owner/Operator

Interior - Exterior

Commercial - Residential

References Available

415-584-0244

Lic. #738848

Recipient of the Better Business Bureau
HONOR ROLL AWARD

LANDSCAPE CONTRACTOR

Experienced, Licensed
Decks, Fences, Patios,
Lawns, Planting, Irrigation,
Lighting, Maintenance.

CALL FOR FREE ESTIMATE!

CAFFREY LANDSCAPES • 415-279-8469

PLEASE NOTE

Some services advertised in
the Noe Valley Voice may be
performed by individuals and
companies not licensed by
the State of California.
The Voice is not responsible
for the services of these
individuals and companies



ROBERT'S QUALITY PAINTING

Interior • Exterior

Serving Noe Valley since 1985

"NO JOB TOO SMALL"

Lic. #526359

(415) 675-0464

May the sun shine
bright on our
Noe Valley home.

J. Newell Construction

EMERGENCY SERVICE AVAILABLE

Remodeling Kitchens & Bathrooms
Decks, Fences & Repairs

Free Estimates • Insured

Lic #881297

Call Jeff 415-305-5950



HAMMERHOUSE CONSTRUCTION, INC.

Certified GREEN Builder

performing all aspects of construction from start to finish.

KITCHENS • BATHROOMS

GARAGE CONVERSIONS • FLOOR ADDITIONS

PAINTING • ELECTRICAL • PLUMBING

CARPENTRY • DECKS & FENCES



Lic #804459 T: 415 516-7399 F: 415 753-0444 www.hammerhouseconstruction.com



Support
Local
Business

Scottish Country Dancing: A new introductory session starts January 14. Come by yourself or with a friend. No partners needed! Learn lively jigs and reels. It's fun, social, energetic, has great music. 8 to 10 p.m. at Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez. Five-class session/\$26. Bring flat, non-slip shoes. www.sf-scottishdancers.org. 415-333-9372.

Expert Digital Restoration & Retouching. Give new life to your old photos and documents. Archival prints, digital files, customized services. www.imagesrevived.com. 415-595-0372.

How to Place a Class Ad

It's easy. Just type or print the text of your ad, multiply the number of words by **40¢ per word**, and send us a check or money order for the total. (Note that a phone number, including area code, counts as one word.) Then mail your ad text and payment, made out to the *Noe Valley Voice*, so that we receive it by the **15th of the month** before the month in which you'd like to advertise. The address is *Noe Valley Voice* Class Ads, 1021 Sanchez Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. (Sorry, the *Voice* is unable to accept Class Ads by phone or e-mail.)

10 for 10 discount: The *Noe Valley Voice* publishes 10 months a year. (We're on vacation in January and August.) If you place the *same* class ad in 10 issues, you are entitled to a 10 percent discount. To figure your cost, deduct 10 percent from the total amount due for 10 issues.

The next *Voice* will be the **February 2010** issue, distributed in Noe Valley the first week of February. **The deadline for Class Ads is Jan. 15.** Note: The issue will be on the streets one month, and will also be displayed on our site. www.noevalleyvoice.com.

Advertisers should keep in mind that only the first few words of their ad (not to exceed one line) will be set in bold. Also, receipts and tear sheets will be provided only if your order is accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Refunds are not granted unless we have made an error. Thank you for your support.

CLASS ADS

Handyman Extraordinaire! 20 years experience with Victorian houses. Small projects and large. Help you baby-proof your home, install a new sink or light fixture. Anything from remodeling a bathroom or building a deck to installing a deadbolt. Door-hanging specialist. Mike, 415-308-2380; mmcquate@gmail.com.

Transform Your Jungle into a Paradise. Twenty-three years in Noe Valley. Pruning, cleanups, maintenance, lawns, flagstone patios, irrigations, planting. Call Jorge at 415-826-7840 for free estimates. Remember this is pruning time.

Wallpaper Installation/Painting. No job too big or too small. Welcome to Susan Arce Wallpaper Installation, Removal, and Painting. Services include paper-hanging, wallpaper-stripping, wallpaper repairs, painting, and wall surface repair. Experience with popular wall coverings to include residential and commercial wallpaper, murals, photomurals, grasscloth, and custom wall coverings. Over 15 years of experience. Call 415-821-2445.

Noe Valley Guest Quarters. Quiet, private, and clean. Sleeps two. Private entrance, firm queen bed, bath with shower, local television, wireless, efficiency kitchen for light house-keeping. Walk to 24th Street, Muni, and BART. \$100 per night, two-night minimum. kchweh@gmail.com.

Superlative Word Processing. Experienced professional, B.A. English, M.S.W. Understandable advice. Business, academic, tape and CD transcription, legal, resumes, manuscripts. Expert editing. Fax machine. Good rates. Call anytime. 824-7736.

Expert Garden and Landscape Services: We do design and installation; regularly scheduled property and garden maintenance; tree pruning, planting, and removals; irrigation and low-voltage lighting systems installation and repair; stonework and hardscaping; cleanups and staging. No job too big or too small. Extremely detail oriented. 16 years in the business. Serving Noe Valley and the greater Bay Area. Excellent references. Call David at 415-846-7581; <http://www.shapeoftheearth.com>.

NOE VALLEY VOICE CLASS ADS 40¢ a word!

The deadline is the 15th of the month. Write *Voice* Class Ads, 1021 Sanchez Street, San Francisco, CA 94114.

Gift Certificates/Painting Workshops. One-day watercolor workshops. Great for a gift or just to indulge yourself in learning all the basics of watercolor. Small class size. No materials required. Email sfclarky@comcast.net or call 415-641-8882.

Fog City Dog Walking in Noe Valley. A tired dog is a happy household. Louis, 710-0513.

Hypnotherapy/Psychotherapy for Excellence. Live the life you want to live; be all you can be using hypnosis and brief therapy for stress and pain management, phobia and habit control, weight and eating issues, personal development, IBS, addictions, childbirth (certified HypnoBirthing and HypnoBirthing fertility therapist). For more information, contact Tara Economakis, Dip. Adv. Hyp. (N-SHAP), MNRHP, UKCP registered. UK, European, and USA trained and qualified. 415-920-9956. Email: tarabecon@hotmail.com. Website: www.lastingchanges.co.uk.

Vacation Room Rental. Upper Noe Valley. Clean, quiet, safe. Ideal for visiting family. 415-821-4890. Sue. emarsh5108@aol.com.



Sandy Claus

Vedic Astrology (Jyotish): This ancient art developed by the illumined seers of India is renowned for its depth of spirit and predictions. Jyotish helps us achieve the four main goals of human life: a meaningful purpose, wealth and prosperity, worldly enjoyments, and spiritual liberation. Schedule a life reading for yourself or as a holiday gift for someone special. Contact Vedic Specialist Rita Cruz-Zaterka, C.A.S., P.K.S. Clinical Ayurveda, Jyotish, Vastu, Iyengar Yoga. Email or call yogayurveda@hotmail.com. 415-939-2770.

Grow Your Own Organic Vegetables and herbs. Be sure it's pure! Great for you, for kids, for the environment. Can grow in containers, too. Let me teach you how. Call Carlin, 415-826-3127; carlinel@fastmail.fm; www.carlinsgardens.com. Carlin's Gardens—Your Nature Connection!

Vacation! Cabo! New three-bedroom, two-bath condo. www.vrbo.com/224562. Kent, 415-468-9400.

Piano Lessons in Noe Valley: Supportive, patient teacher with many years of experience. Lessons tailored to individual goals. Ear training, theory, classical or popular repertoire. Barbara Bannett, 415-648-1007.

Christmas 101...A Children's Production! December 4 & 5 at 7 p.m. Bethel Christian Church, 1325 Valencia Street, SF, 94110. 415-285-1433. www.bethelsf.org.

Overwhelmed by Clutter? Closets? As featured on HGTV, NPR, and the *San Francisco Chronicle*. ShipShape offers expert, simple solutions to what goes where. We cut through clutter, defrazzle moves, install closets, and restore simplicity and peace of mind to busy lives. Home, office, packing, closets, and more. 415-550-0658. www.shipshape.com.

Gourmet Vegetarian Cuisine delivered to your doorstep. Diverse menus, naturally low in fat, cholesterol, and salt. Treat yourself right! Gift certificates available. For a monthly menu, call Jane Peal, 415-826-2133; www.pealcuisine.com.

Cleaning Professional. 24 years experience. Apartments, homes, or offices. Roger Miller, 415-794-4411.

Do You Have a Child with Asperger's? Certified Pilates teacher formerly at Saint Francis Sports Medicine specializes in teaching Pilates-based movement to children with Asperger's syndrome in individual sessions. I have found this work greatly improves sensory and motor skills, focus, and self-esteem. And it's fun. Patty Whitman, 415-282-5802.

Free Introductory Qigong/Tai Chi class session. Chris Sequeira offers a free introductory class in tai chi and qigong. Monday, 6 to 7:30 p.m., Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez; or Wednesday and Friday, 10:30 a.m. to noon, Glen Park baseball field, Elk & Chenery. Half-price discount for first month. Call 415-773-8185. Livingtaichiprinciples.blogspot.com. Livingtaichi@yahoo.com.

Charlie the Phone Guy: Residence, business, home office telephone wiring, Fax/modem lines, DSL, Ethernet, VOIP! Dead jacks brought back to life! Remodel planning. On-time appointments! Free estimates. Noe Valley resident. Charlie@sfphoneguy.com. 415-641-8410.

Attract Birds and Butterflies to your garden! Take simple steps to delight your senses and bring vibrant life to your yard. And birds eat lots of insects! I'll design and plant or show you how. Call Carlin, 415-826-3127; carlinel@fastmail.fm; www.carlinsgardens.com. Carlin's Gardens—Your Nature Connection!

Adriano Hauling & Cleaning: Need help? We can help! We love cleaning your yard, garage, and attic. We remove and dump any construction debris, appliances, new furniture, old furniture, and much more! Need space in your garage or basement? Call us for a free estimate! Seven days a week! Nine years in the Noe Valley area. Call Adriano, 415-990-4062.



Bernie's
a local girl's coffee shop

Proudly Serving La Coppa Coffee

Featuring a Variety of Desserts Delivered Fresh Daily
from Raison d'Etre Bakeries

Serving an Assortment of Teas & Blended Beverages

Savor our Friendly, Cozy Atmosphere

FREE WIRELESS

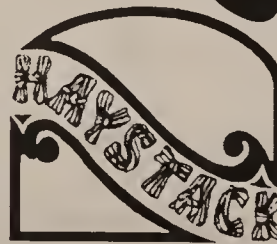
Open 7 Days – 5:30 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

3966 24th Street
between Sanchez & Noe

415.642.1192
BernadetteMelvin@Gmail.com

AWARD WINNING PIZZA!

HAYSTACK



**Pizza
Restaurant**

FINE ITALIAN CUISINE

Where Great Friends Meet and Eat - A Family Tradition Since 1972

**DINE IN, USE OUR FREE DELIVERY OR
CALL AHEAD TO PICK UP!**

415-647-1929

Now you can order online – www.haystackpizza.com

Open Sunday – Thursday - 11:30 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.

Friday & Saturday - 11:30 a.m. until Midnight

3881 24th Street between Sanchez & Vicksburg

HANDMADE PIZZA TO ORDER!

Showerfold. Metal stall shower with safety glass door, fittings, and some copper plumbing. 415-824-2327.

Furnished Apartment. Two-bedroom. 22nd and Chattanooga. Available for short (three-day minimum) or long-term stays. Clean, sunny, quiet, full kitchen. For more info: www.balmyvalley.com/noeapartment.

Carroll Painting Inc., License #905757. Interior/exterior painting. 415-310-6571. www.carrollpaintinginc.typepad.com.



Personal Fitness Trainer. Have a plan for your goals? I can help you improve cardio, strength, flexibility, quality of life! Beginners welcome. Train near Division and Potrero, San Francisco. Susan Sullivan, 415-786-9939. susan@binkysbarn.com.

Garden Consultant. Need a little help or inspiration? I will help you solve garden problems, visualize your dream garden, implement your ideas, or learn about gardening, including gardening organically, natural pest control, and so much more! Carlin's Gardens—15 years in Noe Valley. Call Carlin, 415-826-3127; email carlinel@fastmail.fm; www.carlinsgardens.com. Carlin's Gardens—Your Nature Connection!

Guitar and Bass Lessons. Former Pickle Family Circus music director, composer of Academy Award-winning film. B.A. Berklee. 20 years of teaching experience. All ages, beginners welcome. Fun, reasonable. I do house calls. Mark, 282-8244; www.kennedymusicstudio.com.

Bed & Breakfast "Cottage Gate." Charming studio with queen bed, kitchenette, breakfast choices. Private entrance (no steps), bath, cable; 20th and Douglass streets. 415-626-6497. JimDiDL@aol.com. Photos at www.vacationrentals.com/vacation-rentals/10961.html.

DogWalkingServiceOfSanFrancisco.com. 415-731-0120.

Stay in SF Short-Term Rental. Large, two-bedroom fully furnished flat in Noe Valley for vacation rental. Restaurants, coffeehouses, markets, transportation all outside your door. Sleeps six comfortably. Great for families! Daily, weekly, monthly rates available. No pets. No smoking. Leave a message at 415-309-4909 or email stayinsf@hotmail.com. For a look around, go to stayinsf.googlepages.com.

PC Tutoring: Introduction to Windows, Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Internet by a very patient community college teacher. Special offer: one and a half hours for \$45. 415-820-1670; cfebcom@gmail.com.

CLAS ADS

Fitness Trainer, Certified. I bring a personalized affordable "gym" to your home. For all fitness levels. Single or packaged sessions. Special: Add an exercise buddy free! Call Christian at 415-420-0760 or visit website at www.dillonfitness.vpweb.com to start your path to good health.

Handyman Mike, 415-756-9896. Carpentry, kitchen cabinets, caulking, decks, dishwasher installation, doors, dry rot, drywall patching, basic electrical, fences, foundation bolting, furniture assembly, garbage disposal, locks, painting, plumbing, pressure washing, shelving, stairs, tile, toilets, windows, woodwork.

Daily/Weekly Rental: Noe Valley studio apartment. Located on Vicksburg near 23rd Street, it's an alternative to hotels and motels. Private entrance in a garden setting. The unit offers a queen-sized bed, full kitchen with dining area, cable TV, and three-quarter bath. No pets, no smoking. Call Jim at 415-285-6433 or (cell) 415-215-2617.

Garden Cottage in the heart of Noe Valley. Perfect for visiting friends and family. Secluded and detached with private deck. Completely furnished. Queen bed and twin sleeper couch. Fully equipped kitchen. Short-term rental. Minimum two nights. Non-smoking. <http://www.sanfranciscogardencottage.com>. 415-225-6905.



Catsitting at negotiable rates in Noe Valley and adjacent neighborhoods. Responsible, playful animal lover, 30-year Noe Valley resident, 10-year local catsitter. Return to a contented cat, a secure home, and a thriving garden. References on request. Lucy, 415-282-3676, lumar9@att.net.

Telephone-Computer-Audio jacks and wiring. Home entertainment, video surveillance—CCTV—telephone systems, intercoms. Sales, service, repair. Since 1999. BBB Lic. #796389. www.allwired.net. Kent, 415-468-9400.

Submissions: The Noe Valley Voice invites submissions of stories, poems, and essays. Email lastpage@noevalleyvoice.com or send manuscript, plus name, phone, and email, to Noe Valley Voice, 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Include a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you need your materials returned. Thank you.

Bernal Heights Short-Term Rental. Ideal for one person or couple vacation/business. One and a half blocks Cortland Avenue, 10 minutes 101 and 280 freeways and SFO; five minutes to Muni and BART connection. Cozy bed-sitting room with full-size bed, private bath with shower, and fully equipped kitchen with dining area. Partial view of the bay, private deck, and use of the garden below. Private parking and entry, dish television, wifi. \$90 night, three-night minimum. 415-285-2694.

Garden Cleanups and Makeovers. Is your garden sad and weary? Let us transform it to vibrant health and beauty! Carlin's Gardens—15 years in Noe Valley. Call Carlin, 415-826-3127; carlinel@fastmail.fm; www.carlinsgardens.com. Carlin's Gardens—Your Nature Connection!

Tax Preparation and Planning Services for individuals and self-employed persons. Over 20 years of experience, especially in dealing with issues of artists, consultants, and non-tilers. Free initial phone consultation. Please contact Alan Steger, Enrolled Agent, at 415-387-3057.

Piano Lessons. Specializing in theory, technique, and classical repertoire. Levels beginner to advanced. Member of the MTAC. Contact me, Heather Carothers, at 415-238-7714.

Vacation Retreat for Noe Valleyans. Calistoga/St. Helena. Three bedrooms, two baths, sleeps six (maximum). Decks with view of stream, woods, and meadow. Fireplace wood supplied. 30 acres, trails, all-year stream. Dogs okay. Three-night weekend = \$500. Seven nights = \$900. Additional nights after seven = \$100. Discount for repeat guests. Photos at <http://spot02.googlepages.com>.

Edible Landscaping. I will help you create an organic edible landscape or make one for you. No need to give up your flower beds—we can incorporate lovely and delicious food plants into your existing garden. Carlin's Gardens—15 years in Noe Valley. Call Carlin, 415-826-3127; email carlinel@fastmail.fm; www.carlinsgardens.com. Carlin's Gardens—Your Nature Connection!

The Voice website

has news and photos from the current issue, and searchable archives dating back to 1996.

www.noevalleyvoice.com

Hey, Taliban! We're building a school for girls in your back yard. Weekend volunteers needed to pass out info. About the *Three Cups of Tea* foundation at local bookstores. Short shifts. Contact Bill at drbilly@comcast.net.

Driver Available: Doctor appointments, grocery shopping, errands. Bill: 415-826-3613.

Old House Repairs. Expert local handyman will resolve all those small structural and renovation issues ignored by the contractors. Same-day plaster/prep/paint is offered as a specialty. Call Olivier at 415-786-4534.

How to Place A CLASS AD

It's easy. Just type or print the text of your ad, multiply the number of words by **40¢ per word**, and send us a check or money order for the total. (Note that a phone number, including area code, counts as one word.) Then mail your ad text and payment, made out to the Noe Valley Voice, so that we receive it by the **15th of the month** before the month in which you'd like to advertise. The address is Noe Valley Voice Class Ads, 1021 Sanchez Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. (Sorry, the Voice is unable to accept Class Ads by phone or e-mail.)

10 for 10 discount: The Noe Valley Voice publishes 10 months a year. (We're on vacation in January and August.) If you place the *same* class ad in 10 issues, you are entitled to a 10 percent discount. To figure your cost, deduct 10 percent from the total amount due for 10 issues.

The next Voice will be the **February 2010** issue, distributed in Noe Valley the first week of February. **The deadline for Class Ads is Jan. 15.** Note: The issue will be on the streets one month, and will also be displayed on our site, www.noevalleyvoice.com.

Advertisers should keep in mind that only the first few words of their ad (not to exceed one line) will be set in bold. Also, receipts and tear sheets will be provided only if your order is accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Refunds are not granted unless we have made an error. Thank you for your support.

UCSF Buchanan Dental Center

Call today! 415-476-5608



New Patients & walk in Dental Emergencies Welcome!



**Fillings ~ Crowns
Bridges ~ Dentures
Root Canals
Whitening
Implants**

Students
& Faculty
Providers

We offer payment plans and accept most major credit cards! For an appointment call 415-476-5608
<http://dentistry.ucsf.edu/>



(Trust Building Tip #7)

He can totally tell when you skip pages, so don't even think about it.

Of course, the Number 1 way to build trust is to consistently show that you're there to help for all the right reasons.

That's what you get when you work with Michael and Oliver; from small things like being on time and returning

calls, to more important matters like delivering sound advice on property value and financing.

Michael and Oliver know that when it comes to your dreams, it all begins with trust.

BUILDING
TRUST FOR THE

www.zephyrsf.com



**Michael Ackerman
Oliver Burgelman
415.695.2715**

Z
ZEPHYR
REAL ESTATE

"The best kept secret in San Francisco is right here in Noe Valley"

Pasta Gina

GOURMET TAKEOUT

The best MEATBALLS in San Francisco & the best CANNOLI on Earth!

GOURMET MEALS TO GO

- entrees • organic salads
- soups • side dishes
- desserts • wines
- olive bar • cheeses
- dips • Italian specialties

we use **NIMAN RANCH** meats
many **Vegetarian & Vegan**
choices available



WEEKDAYS

10 AM - 9 PM

WEEKENDS

10 AM - 8:30 PM

FRESH HOUSE MADE PASTAS & SAUCES

- 8 flavors of pasta • linguine, fettucine, papardelle, angel hair or lasagna sheets • 10 types of raviolis • fresh rigatoni
- 20 different sauces

ACME & GRACE Breads

breads are ½ price
during the last ½ hour

"My family and I have enjoyed Pasta Gina's food since their opening day"
- John Jemerin, M.D., San Francisco.

741 Diamond St. @ 24th St. • 415-282-0738 • pastagina@sbcglobal.net

Betty Taisch Top Producer



It takes more than a sign to sell your home.

I offer you the knowledge and experience needed in today's rapidly changing market - plus local, nationwide, and international marketing. Call me today to learn more about buying or selling your home!



CRS, LTG, PMN, CRB, SRES, EPRO

International President's Premiere

Top 1% Nationally

(415)338-0121

betty@taisch.com

www.taisch.com



Thought of selling your home? We have sold several houses in your area and would like the opportunity to help you sell yours. In today's changing market it pays to have a long term industry professional to rely on for all of your real estate needs. With over fifteen years in the real estate business Betty has experience with a wide variety of transactions. If you or someone you know is looking to buy or sell, we're here to help. Contact us today for a free consultation and market analysis!

Q Painting & Waterproofing



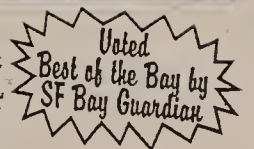
When Quality Matters
415.412.1642

License # 866791

www.QPAINT.com

Need an extra pair of hands?

Call the SF Day Labor Program
& Women's Collective!



Our services include:

- YARDWORK • SPECIAL EVENTS • CATERING
- HOME IMPROVEMENT • MOVING/HAULING
- HOUSEKEEPING • PAINTING • CONSTRUCTION
- ELDER AND CHILDCARE ... AND MUCH MORE!
- BILINGUAL WORKERS AVAILABLE
- WORKERS AVAILABLE ANYTIME WITH ADVANCE NOTICE
- RATES START AT \$15-20/HOUR (3 HOUR MINIMUM)
- NON-PROFIT - ALL WAGES GO DIRECTLY TO WORKERS

To hire workers, give us a call!

(415) 252-5375 or 252-5376

or pick up at 3358 Cesar Chavez, SF CA 94110

Dispatchers available Mon-Fri: 7am-1pm Sat: 7am-12pm

Same day service within dispatch hours.

After-hour messages returned promptly.

Savor
The
Flavor

at

Eric's

(415)
282-0919



1500
Church Street

and now for the RUMORS behind the news

Apathy: Who Cares?

By Mazaak

TWO-BIT VOTERS: The Noe voter turnout for the Nov. 3, 2009, municipal election proved to be the lowest in modern history. According to the Noe Valley Bureau of Investigation (NVBI), the San Francisco Department of Elections reports that out of 16,034 Noe Valleyans who registered to vote, only 4,149 (just under 26 percent) bothered to come to the polls.

The absent Valleyums failed to cast votes on a proposition allowing city supervisors to hire more aides (Prop. B—it was barely approved), a proposition allowing the city to sell naming rights to Candlestick Park (Prop. C, passed by 57 percent), and two propositions related to outdoor advertising: Prop. D, which would have lifted a ban on Market Street billboards (failed); and Prop. E (passed), which bars additional advertising on city-owned property, like Muni stops and sides of buildings.

For a neighborhood that prides itself on community involvement, Noe Valley seems to have little interest in the nuts and bolts of civic duty. Now if the propositions had been about *parking*...



TO SURVEY, WITH LOVE: And then there were the paltry responses to the Noe Valley Association's survey of what kind of shops and restaurants Noeyans would

like to see along 24th Street. The NVA, a so-called community benefit district, was created in 2005, and is funded by a special assessment on the 176 property owners along the six-block commercial strip affectionately known as Downtown Noe Valley (24th from Douglass to Church, plus side streets). The NVA conducted the survey to submit to a task force created by the city's Small Business Commission. The commission is expected to make recommendations to the S.F. Planning Department, which has been reviewing the commercial-use codes in business districts throughout the city.

According to NVA director Debra Niemann, 96 civic-minded Noe Valleyans answered the call and participated in the September 2009 survey through the NVA website, www.noevalleyassociation.org. (The *Voice* had publicized the survey in a "Short Take" in our September issue.)

Unfortunately, the rest of the 4,149 Valley voters did not take their responsibilities to the cyber level and complete the NVA survey online. I wonder how many of our 176 property owners weighed in on the survey, which incidentally they paid for.

The survey asked:

1. What types of restaurants would you like to see on 24th Street?
2. What other types of retail stores would you like to see?
3. If you could make changes, additions, or improvements in Noe Valley, what would they be?
4. How would you rate various [neighborhood] community events, in order of preference?

The survey gave you 11 types of restaurants to rank (and failed to include Chinese, for some reason). Of the choices, Health Food, Indian, and Vietnamese were the top picks of the survey respondents.

As for the second question, people wanted a garden store and a home acces-

sories store, but the other two choices, a juice bar or a sporting goods store, were ranked almost as high. In the write-in part of the question, people listed dozens of things they'd like to see, such as a men's clothing store, jewelry repair shop, movie theater, "another health food store," and "a store like Cliff's Variety" in the Castro. Many commented, "No more nail salons!"

In the changes/improvements category, there were 54 earnest responses. One responder wrote "More Parking" 70 times. Another suggested more pods for City Car Share. Others wanted to expand the Noe Valley Farmers' Market to Lick School on Saturday mornings, or make 24th Street a "car-free pedestrian zone" on Saturdays, or bring a full-size gym to Noe Valley. How about we "make the parking lot where the Farmers' Market is currently located [a place] where small classical and jazz concerts and art sales could be held, similar to the plazas found in European cities," one person wrote.

Finally, the top three community events were, in order of preference, the Farmers' Market, the merchants association's Noel Stroll, and the annual Easter Egg Hunt put on by the NVA. (My favorite is the Harvest Festival.)

Maybe all you 4,149 Rumors regulars should log on to the NVA website and ask to take the survey. Get involved!



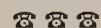
NVBI AGENTS estimate that fewer than 20 Noe Valleyites will show up at the Planning Commission's Jan. 14 hearing (1:30 p.m., Room 400, City Hall) to evaluate Bevan Dufty's proposal to remove the restaurant and other food moratoriums governing our commercial corridor (see last month's Rumors).

The Planning Department spokesperson on the issue, Tara Sullivan, expects the commission will recommend the changes and return the proposal to the

Board of Supervisors, who will then refer the matter to the Land Use Committee (Sophie Maxwell, David Chiu, and Eric Mar), who will hold public hearings sometime in February or March and then make a recommendation to the full Board of Supervisors.

Bevan Dufty says he intends to hold a town hall meeting "sometime during the second week of February," to hear residents' and merchants' views on lifting the bans.

Sullivan stresses that even if the change is okayed, new restaurants or takeouts or whatever will still have to go through the rigorous "conditional use" permit process. She points out that the most recent conditional use application was filed by the financial institution Circle Bank. The bank had no objections as of Nov. 30, and Sullivan anticipated it would get its approval at the commission's Dec. 3 meeting.



BONJOUR, BOULANGERIE: Over 600 locals attended the grand opening of La Boulange de Noe on Friday, Nov. 17. There were free baguettes, pâté, and coffee for all attendees, and the neighborhood was happy to be invited.

"We had prepared enough food to serve about 300 people," says co-owner Thomas Lefort, "but we started running low after about 45 minutes, so we rushed to prepare more food for another 300, which was pretty well gone by 6 p.m."

Lefort went on to say, "We are very happy to be in Noe Valley, and the response has exceeded our expectations. This is performing nearly as well as our top café in Hayes Valley." The Noe Valley café/bakery is the Bay Bread group's ninth S.F. location, and they have two more in Marin County.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

CASA MEXICANA

Fresh

★ MEXICAN GRILL ★

LEAN MEXICAN CUISINE

Including:

★ BROILED SALMON **BURRITOS** ★ DELICIOUS **CHICKEN MOLE** ★

★ WONDERFUL **ENCHILADAS** ★ COCHINITA PIBIL **PORK** ★

★ CACTUS **BURRITOS** ★ FANTASTIC GRILLED **QUESADILLAS** ★

★ GRILLED **SEAFOOD SPECIALS** ★

GREAT **TACOS** ★ VARIETY OF **VEGETARIAN DISHES**

★ NEW **MAYA TAMALES** ★

Check Us Out Again —

For the First Time!!

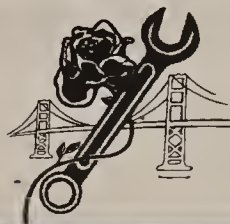
★ Great Atmosphere! ★

OPEN EVERYDAY ★ 11 AM — 10 PM

3917 24TH STREET

AT SANCHEZ

415-648-0477



**SAN FRANCISCO
AUTO REPAIR CENTER**
(415) 285-8588

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
Smog Check & Repair Available 7 Days

FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC AUTO REPAIRS
OFFICIAL CALIFORNIA SMOG STATION
12 MONTH WARRANTY ON ALL REPAIRS

Free Shuttle Service to & from BART, Downtown & Nearby
Neighborhoods ♦ Basic Auto Repair Classes ♦ "Do-It-Yourself"
Membership Available ♦ Dependable, Guaranteed Work at
Honest Prices

- Used Car Prepurchase Diagnostic Inspection Service
- Emissions Systems/Smog Test Failure Diagnosis & Repair
- Tune Up/Lube Service/Regular Maintenance
- Cooling Systems • Radiators • Overheating
- Timing Belts • Brakes • Clutches • General Repairs
- Air Conditioning/Heaters • Check Engine Light
- Electrical Problems/Rewiring/Short Circuits
- Windows/Doors/Vandalism Repairs • Four-Wheel Drive Service
- Struts/Shocks/Suspension/Steering • CV Joint & Axle Service
- Computer Diagnostics • Driveability Problems
- Engine & Transmission Rebuilding & Replacement

since 1978

(415) 285-8588

611 FLORIDA STREET (Near 18th), S.F., CA 94110
Between Harrison & Bryant Streets
All Major Credit Cards & ATM Accepted



OFFICIAL GROSS POLLUTER
CERTIFICATION STATION

We can repair & retest
smog failures from
"Test-Only" Stations



\$ 10
OFF

SMOG INSPECTION



FREE
(\$60 Value)

BRAKE & SAFETY
INSPECTION



\$ 10
OFF

OIL CHANGE

RUMORS

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Curiously, under the restrictions in the city planning code, La Boulange will be able to open only one more spot in San Francisco. After 12 locations, they will automatically become a "chain" and banned from other neighborhoods' commercial districts.

☎ ☎ ☎

BLOG JAM: Noe Valley became the sixth entry in the *S.F. Chronicle's* list of neighborhoods featured on its cyber alter ego, *SFGate.com*, and actually only the second neighborhood in San Francisco with its own site, which will "feature updates from local bloggers as well as opportunities to share photos."

"We started this feature with the island of Alameda, then our Marin site, and then the Mission District in San Francisco, followed by Oakland and then Peninsula Coastsides and now, since September, the Noe Valley site," says *SFGate* news director Vlae Kershner.

Ten stories have appeared on the Noe Valley site: blogs about the opening of Curator, Green 11, Star Magic, St. Philip's Festival, Omnivore Books, Dufty, Cover to Cover, Bernie's Coffee, and the last story, which appeared Oct. 4, about the Whole Foods opening on Sept. 30. That was attributed to the "Noe Valley Buzz" blog.

Kershner says right now "we are looking for bloggers for Noe Valley." All you aspiring Noe Valley journalists, this looks like an opportunity.

According to the *Chronicle's* Phil Bronstein, who is now editor-at-large and

director of content development for the *Chron's* parent company, the Hearst Corporation, "This is a way to establish relationships with neighborhood blogs [and freelance reporters] and give them a larger audience."

Bronstein, who used to live in Noe Valley on Eureka at 22nd Street, says that all 15 Hearst papers are trying to focus on neighborhoods, and he feels this is being done well in the Bay Area, and also with their Texas paper, the *Houston Chronicle*.

Bronstein is also proud of the very successful Mission District blog, called Mission Loc@1, which was an outgrowth of a journalism class at U.C. Berkeley where Bronstein lectured.

☎ ☎ ☎

THIRTEEN HUNDRED TURKEYS flew out of Drewes Bros. Meat and Fish Market this Thanksgiving, according to owner Josh Epple. "Our customers also make donations to St. Anthony's Dining Room, which are matched by Drewes, and this year we will be sending St. Anthony's about 600 pounds of turkey for Christmas Dinner," says Epple. Drewes also donated turkeys to the Missionaries of Charity at St. Paul's Church, a group established by Mother Teresa in 1982.

Noe Valley's Turkey of the Year Award goes once again, for the sixth straight year, to the owners of Real Food Company for creating nothing but a blight since Labor Day of 2003. It also appears that I will be winning my bet with Bevan Dufty, who said that there will be work starting at the store "by the end of the year."

A quick check with the Planning Department shows that the last chirp made by the owners, Utah-based Nutraceutical Corporation, was an application filed back in May of 2007, to build a three-story, mixed-use structure (commercial and residential), but nothing was done after

that date to obtain approval of the plans.

Dufty says he has made several calls to Nutra's point man on the project, Sergio Diaz, who has failed to respond. Tara Sullivan of the Planning Department notes that the owners would have to seek a demolition permit, but could do so only after they obtained city authorization for the plans. The only tool needed for "work" that could be done there these days is a sledgehammer.

So, Bevan: I think I will be ordering a turkey sandwich for lunch on Jan. 2.

Oh, you Noe Valleons might be interested to know that the top three Halloween costumes this year at One Stop Party Shop on Church Street were: (1) Michael Jackson, (2) H1N1 flu stick like pig noses, and (3) pirate stuff. Says owner Mardie Vandervort, "Michael Jackson was huge this year."

☎ ☎ ☎

RESULTS OF THE NVBI SURVEY of holiday gifts in Downtown Noe Valley were released the day after Thanksgiving. Here's what one agent reported after making the rounds of the toy stores:

Peekabootique on Castro has a neat "Band in a Box" (with drum, cymbals, triangle, etc.) for \$25 which kids of any age should like; and the shop is also offering Chunky Wooden Puzzles (\$5 to \$25). Both items are made by Melissa & Doug.

Around the corner on 24th Street, Wink is displaying collectible action figures from Tokidoki Toys, with prices starting at \$6. You can also find arty and practical placemats from \$9 to \$19.

Over at Small Frys, take a look at the various Toys in a Tube, which cost \$10.95, or the book *Goodnight San Francisco*, written by Adam Gamble and illustrated by Santiago Cohen for \$9.95.

Star Magic has Space Specs (prism glasses) for six dollars. But probably the

coolest items are the Solar Cars (\$38), or a small plasma-light ball for \$20.

Just for Fun has toys, but it also offers bathroom linens for \$9.95 which have witty sayings on them, like: "You can't scare me, I have kids" or "Before I share a man's company I make sure he owns it." Also, you will find scads of ornaments priced from \$5 to \$19.

Ladybug Ladybug has T-shirts in all sizes that say "Old School San Francisco Native" on the front. They go for \$20 each or three for \$35.

Down at the Ark, a great stocking stuffer is the timeless Silly Putty for \$3.99, or Folkmanis finger puppets from \$6.99 to \$30. The Monster Balloon sells for seven bucks.

(Turn around and walk back up 24th.) The Urban Nest has really cool designer sink strainers for \$13.75, designer oilcloth lunch bags for \$12, and a 4 x 7 tablecloth for \$36.

Global Exchange stocks decorative picture frames and tableware made from recycled magazines (\$6 to \$40); recycled aluminum can pull-tabs made into jewelry (\$22 to \$32), recycled tire inner tubes fashioned into pouches (\$10), and wallets for \$29.

Back on Castro, Cooks Boulevard has a large assortment of Storehouse Olive Oils with a price range from \$12 to \$18. Or everyone can use a pair of OXO kitchen tongs for twelve bucks.

Lastly, for a little stocking stuffer, there is a nail salon on 24th Street currently for sale, for the bargain price of \$79,000. If you are interested, inquire across the street at Zephyr Realty.

☎ ☎ ☎

THAT'S 30, folks. Wishing you and yours a happy, safe holiday season. Ciao for now. Pending drastic climate change, the *Voice* will be back in February. ■

The Inn San Francisco



Family or friends visiting?

Planning a romantic interlude?

(415) 641-0188

Step back in time into our gracious
1872 Victorian Mansion Bed & Breakfast Inn.

Reviews on tripadvisor.com and yelp.com

www.innsf.com

TUGGEY'S

Hardware for the Handyperson
Denny Giovannoli
3885 24th Street
San Francisco, CA 94114
415-282-5081

Sat. 9-5

Mon.-Fri.

9-5:30

Sun. 11-3

WANTED

Customers for Life




Cabrillo Plumbing, Heating and Air

\$50 OFF REPAIR

415-821-0560

www.DiscoverCabrillo.com

SAME DAY WOOD REFINISHING

NON TOXIC
CABINETS
FLOORS
TRIM

NO DUST
NO MESS
NO ODOR

for a FREE,
no-obligation
consultation
and a 10%
discount on
your order.

There's no longer any reason to wait to renew that beautiful wood in your home.

Unlike typical wood refinishing, the NHance revolutionary system allows you a dust free house within 24 hours, no mess.

Enjoy beautiful cabinets, floors, windowsills, woodwork, doors and more with complete Customer Satisfaction Guarantee.

Renew the life of your wood now with NHance.

NHance

Revolutionary Wood Renewal™

Call
415.294.7795

INDEPENDENT OWNED & OPERATED
Serving San Francisco

www.nhance.com



LINDA S. GORDON



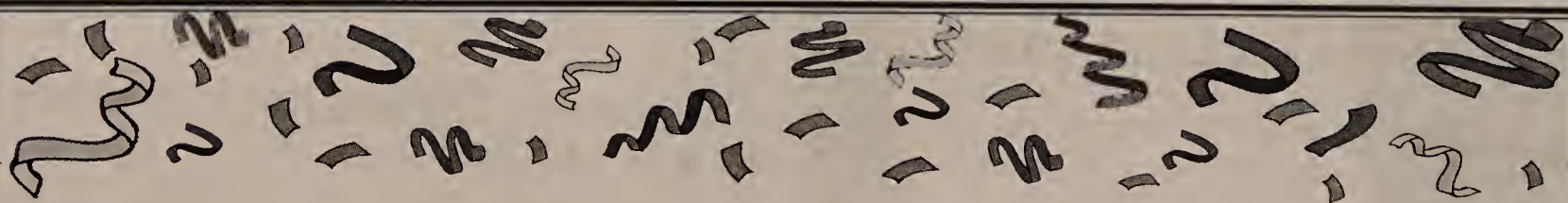
Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

"Best Agent" Readers Choice San Francisco Chronicle
p// 415.602.1471 e// sold@linda-gordon.com i// linda-gordon.com

Noe Valley is :

ULTIMATE LIFESTYLE TRENDY COMMUNITY STYLE CHIC
CUISINE YOUNG DESTINATION UNORDINARY VIEWS GREEN
WORLD-CLASS VITAL MARKETS IDEAL INCOMPARABLE
ABSOLUTE CONTEMPORARY MODERN HISTORICAL HIP
CHIC WHATS-HOT DISTINGUISHED FUN EXTRAORDINARY
UNCOMMON FUN EXCEPTIONAL ECCENTRIC UNIQUE RARE
SASSY BEAUTIFUL UNPARALLELED SLEEK SUBLIME FUN
IMAGINATIVE SHARP PETS SWANK ARTISTIC PARKS VITAL
KIDS CATS FASHIONABLE ORNAMENTED YOUNG GRACEFUL
RESPECTED OPULENT RARE SUPERIOR ELEGANT CHIC
POSH COMMUNITY COOL REFINED SOPHISTICATED FUN
MANNERED BECOMING CUTTING-EDGE NOW IMPRESSIVE
YOUNG FAMILY MATURE WALKS VALUABLE RELAXING HIP
PEACEFUL UNIQUE FASHION GREEN ENVIRONMENT YOUNG
SWANK FASCINATING SOOTHING CREATIVE BRILLIANT
PRICELESS DOGS HISTORIC TRANQUIL NOW CURRENT HIP
PARKS WALKS SOPHISTICATED UNIQUE CREATIVE FAMILY
NEIGHBORS FOLIAGE SHOPS RESTAURANTS VALUABLE
PICNICS ECCENTRIC HISTORICAL ELEGANT FASHIONABLE

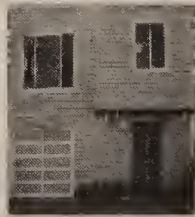
Or if you'd prefer... HOME



Wishing you a wonderful and prosperous New Year!!

- Linda S. Gordon

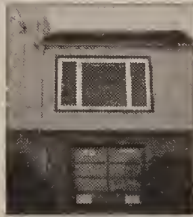
PACIFIC UNION INTERNATIONAL AND DENNIS OTTO'S SALES FOR 2009



556 Peralta



3529 19th St.



651 27th St.



277-279 29th St.



1 Baker, #3B



471 Banks



DENNIS OTTO
415.345.2570
dennis@dennisotto.net
www.dennisotto.net

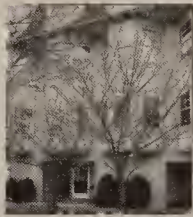
THANK YOU
for a great year!



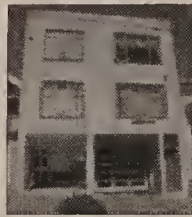
4338 Cesar Chavez



120 Chenery



80 Collingwood, #401



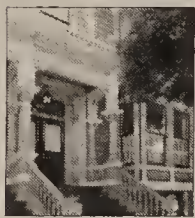
332 Day



3701 Geary, #501



45 Lloyd



847 Oak



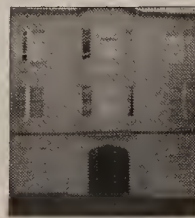
532 Peralta



130 Roanoke



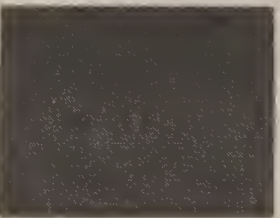
77 Van Ness, #604



38-40 Virginia



1735 Wawona



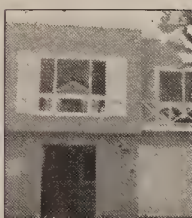
3900-3902 22nd St.



20 Graystone



1711 Broderick



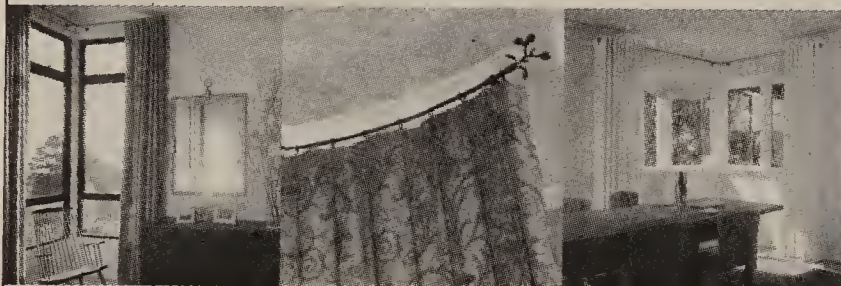
681 Duncan



2931 20th St.



The Fine Art Of Fine Property



Finish your room

with custom furnishings from Stitch.

[stitch]

Call to schedule an in-home consultation.

(415)641-6081

www.stitchsf.com

- Hundreds of fabrics
- Custom hardware
- Curtains and blinds
- **NEW** natural shade products
- Solar shades & motorization
- Window seats & slipcovers
- Duvets, pillows & shams

Alice's

R E S T A U R A N T

Hunan and Mandarin Style

The Finest in Chinese Cuisine! • Take-out Available

WE USE NO MSG

1599 Sanchez Street (at 29th Street) in Noe Valley

415-282-8999 • www.alicesrestaurant.citysearch.com



Lunch and Dinner: Monday – Thursday 11 a.m. – 9:30 p.m.
Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. – 10 p.m. • Sunday 12 noon – 9:30 p.m.



Paxton Gate

EXCEPTIONAL GARDENS
Design and Construction since 1992

Experts at all outdoor construction:

- Fine Carpentry
 - Decks, arbors, gazebos, furniture & more
 - Custom hot-tub structures
- Stonework & Masonry
 - Walls, patios and fountains
- Permanent Barbeque Islands & Outdoor Kitchens
- Garden Maintenance & Arborist Services
- Irrigation & Lighting

Visit our showroom and retail store at 824 Valencia St., log on to PaxtonGate.com, or call us at 415-824-1872.

Fully insured and licensed (#825875)



Cassandra Mettling-Davis, Architect
415 664 3400

Specializing in kitchens, bathrooms and remodels.

CMDarchitecture.com

801 Portola Drive Suite 104 SF CA 94127

CMD Architecture | San Francisco



PACIFIC UNION INTERNATIONAL



Exquisite Taste Deserves Extraordinary Service



When it comes to meeting and exceeding the luxury real estate needs of San Francisco, no other company can compare to the dedicated professionals and exemplary service at Pacific Union International.

Here, we define luxury not by the price of a home, but by the quality of our people, the unparalleled level of our service and our commitment to the communities we all call home. Now, through an exclusive affiliation with Christie's Great Estates, we offer clients worldwide exposure through our combined proprietary and proactive property marketing and technology tools. At Pacific Union International, our wish is to enhance the fine art of living through "The Fine Art of Fine Property."TM

Talk to a real estate professional with a commitment to you and your community.

San Francisco/Opera Plaza 415.474.6600 • San Francisco/Presidio 415.929.7100



The Fine Art Of Fine PropertyTM

www.PacUnion.com

THE LAST PAGE

A Fresh-Cut Christmas Tree? Not for Me!

BY LYNN SUNDAY

I WAS LIVING on Funston Avenue in the Inner Sunset in 1980 when I bought a six-foot-tall, eleven-year-old avocado tree in a large red clay pot at a garage sale half a block down the street. I paid twenty dollars for it, contingent on the ability of the sellers—two strong, young male roommates—to successfully maneuver the tree, in its pot, up the narrow winding stairway to my second-floor flat. It was a precarious process, involving sweat, grunts, and an occasional curse, but the tree arrived in my living room without losing a leaf.

Marc and Abariss, my teenaged sons, were delighted by the unexpected presence of a living tree in our living room. I was too, having imagined that owning a houseplant taller than the man I was dating was a luxury reserved for rich people, not single moms like me living in rental units.

We set the tree before the front window where it would bask in the afternoon sun. We gazed at it worshipfully, sitting cross-legged on the floor beneath its large, flat, tear-shaped leaves. Light green veins ran through each darker green leaf, with smaller veins branching from the main one to their edges, like country roads branching off a highway. The tree trunk was brownish gray and rough to the touch. Smaller, smoother branches were a vivid tree-frog green. I breathed in deeply with satisfaction and then exhaled strongly, blowing carbon dioxide upward into the tree. As I did so, my breath caused a slight stirring of its lower leaves. I could almost feel the gift of oxygen pouring from those leaves in exchange.

I named the tree Apollo after the sun god. "Cool," my sons said.

The trouble began in December, when I suggested that rather than buying a Christmas tree this year, why not decorate Apollo. "This tree is part of our home," I said. "So why cut down *another* tree to use for two short weeks and then throw it away?"

My sons were horrified by my suggestion. It was enough when I divorced, when we moved across the country, when I started dating, when I legally chose my own last name—but this, they insisted, was over the top.

Marc shook his head no, like he couldn't believe what he'd heard. "We've always had a Christmas tree," he said reasonably, as his brother nodded in



VINTAGE PHOTO COURTESY PAMELA GERARD

agreement. "It's family tradition. Ask Grandma."

When I was a kid in the 1950s, each December my mom hung on our front door a handmade evergreen wreath, decorated with pine cones and tiny red bells. A week before Christmas, my parents drove to a lot in our small New York town and bought a freshly cut pine tree, chosen by me. I inspected every tree on that lot before pointing dramatically at my choice, which my dad then paid for and dragged to the car.

My dad secured the tree in a stand before the living room window. He draped strings of multicolored bubble lights around the branches and set a silvery star at the top. Then my mom and I hung delicate round and pear-shaped glass balls and red-and-white-striped candy canes. We draped red paper garlands and added tinsel. We hung four flying bird decorations—they were small and glittery and fit in my hand. Their wings caught the light as they swung gently in flight. Finally, we placed holiday cards from friends and family onto just the right branches of the tree. The result was breathtaking, even before we turned on the tree's lights.

As a young married adult with small children, I didn't question Christmas tradition. Even after divorcing my husband and moving with my sons to San Francisco—where I came to regard myself as a somewhat untraditional person—I bought, dragged home, and decorated a tree each year. This year was the first time I'd considered doing otherwise. But still, feeling pressured by my sons and preferring not to discuss the issue with my mother, I went to a lot and bought a tree—far be it from a divorcee to mess with childhood traditions.

The Christmas tree was a five-foot-tall, bushy evergreen, chosen by Abariss. Marc secured it in a

stand in the front part of the living room near the fireplace—as far from Apollo as it could go. Then we draped garlands and hung ornaments, tinsel, and candy canes. Marc set the star at the top and turned on the lights. I had to admit the tree looked great, but we all kept looking across the room at Apollo—the tree we lived with year-round—left out and undecorated.

A week after Christmas we took down the tree, dragged it down the stairs, out the front gate, and dumped it in the gutter, where it would stay until Sunset Scavenger came to cart it away.

"Maybe next year we'll decorate Apollo," I said, regarding the discarded tree. This time there were no objections.

I never bought a Christmas tree again. I would have felt disloyal to Apollo. And through that tree my connection to the natural world deepened and the seed of ecological consciousness was planted. (No trees would be killed for *my* family.)

We decorated Apollo the next holiday season with silvery garlands and delicate round and pear-shaped glass balls, then added candy canes and tinsel. Carefully, Marc set the shining star on Apollo's topmost branch, and Abariss hung the two shimmering, flying birds my mother gave me from her set of four. We placed our festively wrapped, beribboned gifts in and around the tree's pot. Then I remembered—the Christmas cards. One by one, we put each of our cards on the tree, setting them on just the right branch.

"Just like Grandma does," my younger son said with satisfaction while Marc nodded agreement.

I may not be so untraditional after all.



Lynn Sunday earns her living as a visual artist, but her writing has appeared in publications as diverse as the San Francisco Chronicle, the Half Moon Bay Review, and the Rosicrucian Digest. She will be in the premiere issue of *Passing It On*, an online Buddhist magazine, in January. She holds degrees in fine arts and education from Syracuse University, and she says, "My passions are animals and the natural world." Sunday lives near Half Moon Bay with her husband Lee, their dog Hootie, and Apollo the avocado tree, "who is forty years old."